

SECURITY
N.B. The
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(Signed) P. G. [Signature]

Date 4/2/71

CONFIDENTIAL

H.M. DIPLOMATIC SERVICE

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FILE No. NE 9 1/6 (Part)

(1-31)

TITLE: Attempted Coup d'Etat in Iraq on
20 January 1970

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NAME
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TO
SEE:

DATE

P.H.

Reg

1-4

26/1

Mr. Hinchcliffe

(7-9)

26/1

Reg

28/1

Mr. Hinchcliffe

18

2/2

P.H.

23/24

10/2

Reg

11/2

P.H.

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21/2

Reg

13/2

P.H.

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19/2

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P.H.

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P.H.

27

19/2

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25/5

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SECURITY GRADING

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CONFIDENTIAL

1970

* RESTRICTED

TOP COPY

1

CYPHER/CAT A

IMMEDIATE BAGHDAD

TO FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE

TELEGRAM NUMBER 59

22 JANUARY 1970

*[RECEIVED WITHOUT SECURITY CLASSIFICATION].

RECEIVED IN REGISTRY No. 10 22 JAN 1970 NEQ 1/6
--

YOUR TELNO 71

ACCORDING TO OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT JUST PUBLISHED THE LADY CONCERNED (A GYNAECOLOGIST WHO WAS CONSULTED BY A MEMBER OF MY STAFF IN MAY AND OCTOBER 1969) IS ONE OF TWO PEOPLE IN WHOSE HOUSES THE CONSPIRACY WAS DISCUSSED WITH IRANIANS. WE HAVE NO REASON TO DOUBT THIS. THE OTHER HAS ALREADY BEEN EXECUTED.

2. ANY SUGGESTION THAT WE MIGHT INTERVENE ON HER BEHALF IS, I FEAR, OUT OF THE QUESTION.

MR. BALFOUR PAUL

FILES:

N.E.D.
P.S.
MR. HAYMAN
MR. ARTHUR

ccccc

* RESTRICTED

Reuter & BBC Reports.

②

CCA036
CK 0715

CCA036 EPA844
0725 : URGENT
LEAD PLOT
(CHANGING DATELINE)

BEIRUT, JAN. 22, REUTER - IRAQ TODAY ORDERED THE IRANIAN AMBASSADOR IN BAGHDAD AND FOUR OTHER IRANIAN DIPLOMATS TO QUIT THE COUNTRY WITHIN 24 HOURS "FOR BEING INVOLVED IN ACTS CONTRARY TO DIPLOMATIC USAGE," BAGHDAD RADIO SAID.

THE RADIO, MONITORED HERE, ADDED THAT THE IRAQI GOVERNMENT ALSO DECIDED TO CLOSE ALL THREE IRANIAN CONSULATES IN IRAQ AND ASK THEIR STAFF TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY, ALSO WITHIN 24 HOURS.

MORE BRB/KF

NNNN
CCA037
CK 0730

CCA038 EPA845
0731 : LEAD PLOT 2 BEIRUT :

THE IRAQI MOVES FOLLOW ACCUSATIONS THAT THE IRANIAN AND AMERICAN INTELLIGENCE SERVICES WERE INVOLVED IN A PLOT ON TUESDAY NIGHT TO TOPPLE THE RULING BAATHIST REGIME IN BAGHDAD.

IN THE PAST 24 HOURS THE IRAQI AUTHORITIES HAVE EXECUTED - BY FIRING SQUAD AND HANGING - A TOTAL OF 22 IRAQIS CONVICTED OF BEING INVOLVED IN THE PLOT.

BAGHDAD RADIO SAID THAT THE FIRST SECRETARY AT THE IRANIAN EMBASSY IN BAGHDAD WAS CALLED TO THE IRAQI FOREIGN MINISTRY AT DAWN TODAY AND GIVEN A MEMORANDUM.

THE MEMORANDUM SAID THE IRAQI GOVERNMENT CONSIDERED THE IRANIAN AMBASSADOR IN BAGHDAD, THE MILITARY ATTACHE, THE PRESS ATTACHE, THE THIRD SECRETARY AND THE ASSISTANT MILITARY ATTACHE AS PERSONA NON GRATA FOR INVOLVEMENT IN ACTS NOT IN KEEPING WITH DIPLOMATIC USAGE AND "ENDANGERING THE SECURITY AND SAFETY OF IRAQ."

(PICKUP AS REQUIRED)
REUTER BRB/KF

NNNN

CCA048 EPA853

0809 : LEAD PLOT 3 BEIRUT: (EPA 845)
(IGNORE PICKUP)

AS WELL AS THE 29 EXECUTED OVER THE PAST TWO DAYS, TWO OTHERS WERE YESTERDAY SENTENCED TO DEATH IN THEIR ABSENCE.

BAGDAD RADIO QUOTED AND IRAQI OFFICIAL SOURCES AS SAYING THAT THE PLOTTERS WERE IN TOUCH WITH MR. DAUD TAHER, THIRD SECRETARY AT THE IRANIAN EMBASSY IN BAGHDAD, THE IRANIAN AMBASSADOR IN KUWAIT, AND THE CHIEF OF IRANIAN INTELLIGENCE.

THE SOURCE SAID THE PLOTTERS HELD SEVERAL MEETINGS DURING WHICH THE CHIEF OF IRANIAN INTELLIGENCE SAID HIS GOVERNMENT WOULD PUT ALL ITS POTENTIAL AT THEIR DISPOSAL.

ACCORDING TO THE SOURCE, THE IRANIAN INTELLIGENCE CHIEF TOLD THE PLOTTERS THAT THE UNITED STATES ALSO WAS ANXIOUS TO SEE THE BAGHDAD REGIME OVERTHROWN.

REUTER PMS/VZ

NNNN

CCA071 EPA862

0856 : LEAD PLOT 4 BEIRUT: (EPA 853)

THE SEVEN PEOPLE EXECUTED TODAY WERE NAMED AS RETIRED MAJOR-GENERAL RASHID MUSLEH, A FORMER INTERIOR MINISTER DURING THE REPUBLICAN REGIME; RETIRED COLONEL MIDHAT AL-HAJ SIRRI, A LEADER OF THE JULY 14, 1958 REVOLUTION WHICH TOPPLED THE MONARCHY; SAAD SHAKER FAHMI, ABDULLAH MOHAMMED AL-KHAYYAT, ZAKI ABDEL-WAHAB, ALBERT NANOU AND MOHAMMED MUTA AL-HUSAMI.

THE RADIO GAVE NO DETAILS OF THE CASE INVOLVING THESE SEVEN BUT SAID THE COURT HAD DEALT WITH FIVE GROUPS OF PLOTTERS SO FAR. IT SAID THE SPECIAL TRIBUNAL, WHICH HAD BEEN IN SESSION THROUGHOUT THE NIGHT, RESUMED ITS WORK TODAY TO LOOK INTO THE CASES OF OTHER GROUPS.

THE COURT SENTENCED ONE OF THE ACCUSED TO 10 YEARS IMPRISONMENT AND ACQUITTED FIVE OTHERS, IT ADDED.

REUTER PMS/VZ

CK 0901

CCA074 EPB271

0901 : LEAD PLOT 5 BEIRUT (EPA 862):

THE RADIO LATER SAID THE SEVEN EXECUTED TODAY HAD BEEN CONVICTED OF SPYING FOR AMERICAN INTELLIGENCE AND WERE SENTENCED TO DEATH LAST MONTH.

AL-KAYYAT WAS A FORMER PRESS ATTACHE AT THE IRAQI EMBASSY IN BEIRUT.

REUTER PMS/LAD

NNNN44 EPA851

0757 : URGENT''''''SECOND LEAD PLOT:

BEIRUT, JAN. 22; REUTER -- SEVEN MORE IRAQIS WERE EXECUTED TODAY FOR ALLEGED INVOLVEMENT IN A PLOT TO OVERTHROW THE GOVERNMENT -- MAKING A TOTAL OF 29 IN 24 HOURS-- AND FIVE IRANIAN DIPLOMATS, INCLUDING THE AMBASSADOR, HAVE BEEN ORDERED TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY, BAGHDAD RADIO ANNOUNCED.

THE EXPLUSION ORDER AGAINST THE IRANIANS, WHO WERE GIVEN 24 HOURS TO QUIT IRAQ, ACCUSED THEM OF "BEING INVOLVED IN ACTS CONTRARY TO DIPLOMATIC USAGE," ACCORDING TO THE RADIO MONITORED HERE.

(PICK UP AS REQUIRED)
REUTER PMS/VZ

CCA113 EPA791

0259 : DAYLEAD PLOT :

BY IAN MACDOWALL

BAGHDAD, JAN. 22. REUTER - FIVE MEN WERE SHOT BY FIRING SQUAD AND ANOTHER WAS HANGED HERE EARLY TODAY, BRINGING TO 22 THE NUMBER OF IRAQIS TRIED AND EXECUTED IN THE PAST 24 HOURS FOR PLOTTING TO TOPPLE THE RULING BAAATH REGIME.

THE SIX - FIVE MILITARY MEN AND A CIVILIAN - WERE EXECUTED AT 0045 LOCAL. BEFORE MIDNIGHT SIMILAR DEATH SENTENCES WERE CARRIED OUT ON TWO POLICE OFFICERS AND TWO CIVILIANS WHILE EARLIER IN THE DAY 12 OTHERS WERE EITHER SHOT OR HANGED.

ALL 22 - 18 OF THEM MILITARY MEN - WERE CONVICTED YESTERDAY OF BEING INVOLVED IN THE PLOT, CRUSHED BY IRAQI AUTHORITIES ON TUESDAY WITH THE HELP OF TANKS RUSHED IN FROM THE RASHID ARMY CAMP ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF BAGHDAD.

EARLY TODAY, AN AUTHORITATIVE SOURCE TOLD THE IRAQ NEWS AGENCY THAT IRAN AND THE UNITED STATES WERE INVOLVED IN THE PLOT, WHICH WAS FOILED THROUGH THE INFILTRATION OF "HONEST ELEMENTS" AMONG THE PLOTTERS.

THE PLOTTERS ALSO SMUGGLED THOUSANDS OF SUB-MACHINE GUNS INTO IRAQ AND FORMED A SPECIAL SQUAD TO ASSASSINATE IRAQI LEADERS, THE SOURCE SAID. BUT ALL THOSE INVOLVED WERE ARRESTED AND TAPE RECORDINGS OF MEETINGS HELD BY THEM WERE SEIZED AND WOULD BE PLAYED LATER.

MORE BRB/KF

NNNN

CCA114

CK 0303

CCA115 EPA792

0303 : DAYLEAD PLOT 2 BAGHDAD :

THE PLOTTERS BEGAN THEIR ACTIVITIES SIX MONTHS AFTER THE REVOLUTION WHICH OUSTED PRESIDENT ABDEL-RAHMAN ARIF ON JULY 17, 1968, THE SOURCE SAID.

THEY BELONGED TO "A VINDICTIVE AND TREACHEROUS GROUP" WHICH HAD ALREADY BEEN INVOLVED IN SUSPECTED ACTIVITIES AGAINST THE "PROGRESSIVE REVOLUTION" AFTER THE TOPPLING OF THE MONARCHY IN JULY 1958.

BOTH AMERICAN AND IRANIAN INTELLIGENCE SERVICES SUPPORTED THE PLOTTERS.

THE SOURCE SAID THE THIRD SECRETARY AT THE IRANIAN EMBASSY IN BAGHDAD, NAMED AS TAHER DAOUD, WAS GIVEN THE TASK OF COORDINATING BETWEEN THE PLOTTERS ON ONE SIDE AND THE IRANIAN GOVERNMENT AND THE U.S. CENTRAL AMERICAN AGENCY (C.I.A.) ON THE OTHER.

THE FIRST CONTACT BETWEEN TAHER AND THE PLOTTERS TOOK PLACE IN BAGHDAD ON APRIL 15 LAST YEAR, THE SOURCE SAID. ON OCTOBER 29 THE PLOTTERS MET A DR. FERZAINI, DESCRIBED BY THE SOURCE AS CHIEF OF IRANIAN INTELLIGENCE, IN KUWAIT. ALSO PRESENT WAS THE IRANIAN AMBASSADOR AND AN EMBASSY OFFICIAL, SHEIKH AL-ISLAM.

MORE BRB/KF

CCA116 EPA793

DR. FERZAINI, THE SOURCE SAID, TOLD THE CONSPIRATORS HIS GOVERNMENT WAS READY TO PUT ALL ITS POTENTIAL AT THEIR DISPOSAL AND URGED QUICK ACTION AS THE U.S. WAS ALSO ANXIOUS TO SEE THE BAGHDAD REGIME OVERTHROWN.

THE SOURCE SAID THAT ON NOVEMBER 15 1000 SUB-MACHINE GUNS AND 250,000 ROUNDS OF AMMUNITION WERE SMUGGLED FROM THE IRANIAN BORDER AREA OF MAHRAN INTO THE BAGHDAD REGION. A MONTH LATER 2,000 MORE SUB-MACHINE GUNS AND 400,000 ROUNDS OF AMMUNITION WERE TRANSFERRED TO BAGHDAD.

ON JANUARY 13 THE CONSPIRATORS WERE GIVEN A 20 KILOWATT TRANSMITTER TO BE USED FOR THEIR CONTACTS WITH TEHERAN AND FOUR DAYS LATER WERE SUPPLIED WITH A SMALLER RESERVE TRANSMITTER.

REUTER BRB/KF

[illegible]

SECRET

IRAQ

DIPLOMATS EXPELLED.

BEIRUT, THURSDAY - IRAQ TODAY ORDERED THE IRANIAN AMBASSADOR IN BAGHDAD AND FOUR OTHER IRANIAN DIPLOMATS TO QUIT THE COUNTRY WITHIN 24 HOURS "FOR BEING INVOLVED IN ACTS CONTRARY TO DIPLOMATIC USAGE", BAGHDAD RADIO SAID.

THE RADIO, MONITORED HERE, ADDED THAT THE IRAQI GOVERNMENT ALSO DECIDED TO CLOSE ALL THREE IRANIAN CONSULATES IN IRAQ AND ASK THEIR STAFF TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY, ALSO WITHIN 24 HOURS.

THE IRAQI MOVES FOLLOW ACCUSATIONS THAT THE IRANIAN AND AMERICAN INTELLIGENCE SERVICES WERE INVOLVED IN A PLOT ON TUESDAY NIGHT TO TOPPLE THE RULING BAAHIST REGIME IN BAGHDAD.

ANOTHER FIVE MEN WERE SHOT AND ONE HANGED IN BAGHDAD TODAY, BRINGING TO 22 THE NUMBER OF IRAQIS EXECUTED IN THE PAST 24 HOURS.

BAGHDAD RADIO SAID THAT THE FIRST SECRETARY AT THE IRANIAN EMBASSY IN BAGHDAD WAS CALLED TO THE IRAQI FOREIGN MINISTRY AT DAWN TODAY AND GIVEN A MEMORANDUM.

THE MEMORANDUM SAID THE IRAQI GOVERNMENT CONSIDERED THE IRANIAN AMBASSADOR IN BAGHDAD, THE MILITARY ATTACHE, THE PRESS ATTACHE, THE THIRD SECRETARY AND THE ASSISTANT MILITARY ATTACHE AS PERSONA NON GRATA FOR INVOLVEMENT IN ACTS NOT IN KEEPING WITH DIPLOMATIC USAGE AND "ENDANGERING THE SECURITY AND SAFETY OF IRAQ".

--- 0755

IRAQ

EXECUTIONS NOW TOTAL 29

BEIRUT, THURSDAY - SEVEN MORE IRAQIS WERE EXECUTED TODAY FOR ALLEGED INVOLVEMENT IN A PLOT TO OVERTHROW THE GOVERNMENT - MAKING A TOTAL OF 29 IN 24 HOURS - AND FIVE IRANIAN DIPLOMATS, INCLUDING THE AMBASSADOR, HAVE BEEN ORDERED TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY, BAGHDAD RADIO ANNOUNCED.

THE EXPULSION ORDER AGAINST THE IRANIANS, WHO WERE GIVEN 24 HOURS TO QUIT IRAQ, ACCUSED THEM OF "BEING INVOLVED IN ACTS CONTRARY TO DIPLOMATIC USAGE," ACCORDING TO THE RADIO MONITORED HERE.

0815

NNNUKJGPN
BBC B

NE
'''''' U R G E N T ''''''

B20 COUP ATTEMPT: BAGHDAD STATEMENT DEONOUNCES +TRAITOROUS
GROUP+ (WITH B17)

(BAGHDAD RADIO - 10.25 GMT) REVOLUTION COMMAND COUNCIL STATEMENT:

GREAT PEOPLE: ON THE NIGHT OF 20TH-21 ST JANUARY A
TRAITOROUS MALICIOUS GROUP, IN COLLUSION WITH FOREIGN ELEMENTS
AND MOTIVATED BY ITS BASE AMBITIONS, TRIED TO ATTACK THE IMMORTAL
17TH JULY REVOLUTION - THE REVOLUTION WHICH BY ITS POPULAR
SUPPORT, PROGRESS, AND REVOLUTIONARY FORCE DISTURBED THE SLEEP OF
REACTION, IMPERIALISM, ZIONISM, AND SUBSERVIENCE.

MF BBC MON 1155 21/1 JMA

DNNNN
BBC B

NE
'''''' U R G E N T ''''''

B21 SPECIAL COURT SET UP, SAYS BAGHDAD

BAGHDAD RADIO ANNOUNCED AT 10.51 GMT THAT A SPECIAL COURT
HAS BEEN SET UP BY THE COUNCIL OF THE REVOLUTION TO TRY THOSE
INVOLVED IN THE ABORTIVE COUP.

VN)

ENE BBC MON 21/1 1156 CDF (UPI) (

NNNN
BBC B

B20 COUP (STATEMENT) (2): THWARTED

NE
THE REVOLUTION WAS LYING IN WAIT FOR THIS GROUP. THEIR HOPES
HAVE BEEN DISAPPOINTED, THEIR EFFORTS BEEN THWARTED, AND THEIR
REMNANTS HAVE BEEN DISPERSED BY THE PEOPLE'S ALERTNESS AND THE
STRONG REVOLUTIONARY MACHINERY AND INDOMITABLE POWER OF THEIR
VANGUARDS.

MF BBC MON 21/1 CDF 1158

KB20 COUP (STATEMENT) (3): ALL ARRESTED

ALL MEMBERS OF THIS BASE PLOT HAVE BEEN A
RESTERED. THEY WILL
BE BROUGHT TO JUSTICE TO RECEIVE A JUST PUNISHMENT FOR THEIR
TREASON AGAINST THE PEOPLE AND THE HOMELAND.

THE WRONGDOERS SHALL LEARN THEIR FATE.

SIGNED: REVOLUTION COMMAND COUNCIL.

ENE BBC MON 21/1 1200 CDF (KY) (TVN)

0NNNNN

BBC B

***** U R G E N T *****

B10. IRAQI SPECIAL COURT MEETS AGAIN

(BAGHDAD RADIO - 0700 GMT) THE SPECIAL COURT MET AT DAWN TODAY
TO CONTINUE THE TRIAL OF OTHER GROUPS OF PLOTTERS AGAINST THE PEOPLE
THE REVOLUTION, AND THE HOMELAND. IT WILL ISSUE OTHER DECISIONS.

(END) BBC MON 0843 22.1. CMH. KY TVN

NNNNNQ

BBC B

B23 BAGHDAD BROADCASTS CABLES OF SUPPORT

NE
AT 10.55 GMT, AFTER ANNOUNCING THE SETTING UP OF A SPECIAL COURT, BAGHDAD RADIO BEGAN BROADCASTING CABLES OF SUPPORT SENT BY ARMY UNITS AND GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS. THESE WERE INTERSPERSED WITH SONGS HAILING THE BAATH PARTY AND ARAB UNITY AND NATIONALISM.

END BBC MON (UPI) (TVN) 21/1 EM 1222

NNNN

BBC B

U R G E N T

B17 COUP ATTEMPT IN IRAQ

BAGHDAD RADIO AT 10.25 GMT BROADCAST A REVOLUTION COMMANE
COUNCIL STATEMENT REPORTING ATTEMPT AT AN ABORTIVE COUP IN
IRAQ. ALL MEMBERS OF THE PLOT HAVE BEEN ARRESTED, THE STATEMENT
SAID.

END BBC MON 21/1 1143 CDF (KY) (TVN)

NNN N

BBC B

B74 NIGERIANS FEAR WESTERN AID: N NN

BBC B

(+++++ U R G E T +++++)

B75 BAGHDAD COURT STILL IN SESSION

BAGHEAD

ADIO SAYS THE SPECIAL COURT IS STILL IN SESSION TO TRY
MORE GROUPS OF PLOTTERS.

END BBC MON 21/1 ZA 2055 KY TVN

Mr. Hinchcliffe

22

NNNN

BBC B

'SJS U R G E N T ''''

B25 BAGHDAD: SPECIAL COURT IN SESSION

(BAGHDAD RADIO - 11.30 GMT) THE SPECIAL COURT, SET UP IN ACCORDANCE WITH DECISION NO 72 ISSUED BY THE REVOLUTION COMMAND COUNCIL CONCERNING THE TRIAL OF THOSE WHO TOOK PART IN THE ABORTIVE PLOT, BEGAN ITS WORK AT TWO O'CLOCK THIS AFTERNOON (ED: LOCAL) AND IS STILL IN SESSION.

END BBC MON (TVN) (UPI) 21/1 EM 1248

NNNNQ
BBC B

BBC MON TESTING 0700

NNNNQ
BBC B

''''U R G E N T ''''
B5 BAGHDAD: SIX MORE EXECUTED

BAGHDAD RADIO REPORTED AT 0630 THE EXECUTION AT 0300 (LOCAL)
TODAY OF SIX MORE PEOPLE, INCLUDING RASHID MUSLIH AND MIDHAT
AL-HAJ SIRRI.

END BBC MON 0800 22/1 G.T. (KY) (TVN)

NNNNNH
BBC B

''''''''U R G E N T ''''''''
B6 SIX EXECUTED: NAMES (WITH B3)

(BAGHDAD RADIO) THE EXECUTION OF THE FOLLOWING CRIMINALS TOOK
PLACE AT 0300 (LOCAL) TODAY: RASHID MUSLIH, MIDHAT AL-HAJ SIRRI,
SAD SHAKIR FAHMI, ABDALLAH MUHAMMAD AL-KHAYYAT, ZAKI ABD AL-
WAHHAB, ALBERT LULU, AND MUUUUUHAAMMADDD MUTAA AL-HUSAMI.

END BBC MON 0807 22/1 JMA (KY) TVN

NNNN
BBC B

B7 CORRECTION TO B5

THE NUMBER OF EXECUTED THIS MORNING SHOULD READ SEVEN (RPT
SEVEN), NOT SIX AS SENT.

END BBC MON 0808 22/1 JMA (KY) TVN

D

NVT L6CK -. QXWW UP IP .9. :??

M8 -178A) - -57. #5. -E7. .4

Summi

Summi

NVT L6CK -. QXWW UPIP .9. :?? 8

M8.-'7EA)- -57. 45.-E7. .4
..... U R G E N T

B6 SIX EXECUTED: NAMES (WITH B3)

(BAGHDAD RADIO) THE EXECUTION OF THE FOLLOWING CRIMINALS TOOK PLACE AT 0300 (LOCAL) TODAY: RASHID MUSLIH, MIDHAT AL-HAJ SIRRI, SAD SHAKIR FAHMI, ABDALLAH MUHAMMAD AL-KHAYYAT, ZAKI ABD AL-WAHAB, ALBERT LULU, AND MUHAMMAD MUTA AL-HUSAMI.

END BBC MON 0807 22/1 JMA (KY) TVN

OTNNNN

BBC B

B8. BAGHDAD: IRANIAN DIPLOMATS' EXPULSION FURTHER DETAILS
(ADD TO B 3 AND B 4)

(BAGHDAD RADIO) THE IRAQI NEWS AGENCY (INA) HAS LEARNED THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY AT 0245 (LOCAL) TODAY CALLED THE IRANIAN EMBASSY'S FI

ST SECRETARY AND INFORMED HIM THAT IT HAD BECOME EVIDENT TO THE IRAQI AUTHORITIES THAT AMBASSADOR DR EZATOLLAH AMELI,

IRANIAN MILITARY ATTACHE COL. (?GHOLAM HOSEYN ALAI), ASSISTANT MILITARY ATTACHE MAJ. (?ALI AKBAR FARIQYAN), PRESS ATTACHE ABD AL-HOSEYN (?AL-SHARIFI), AND THIRD EMBASSY SECRETARY DAWUD TAHIR HAD CARRIED OUT ACTIVITIES INCONSISTENT WITH THEIR DIPLOMATIC STATUS. THEY HAD INTERFERED IN THE DOMESTIC AFFAIRS OF THE IRAQI REPUBLIC IN A MANNER ENDANGERING THE COUNTRY'S SECURITY AND SAFETY.

THE FOREIGN MINISTRY LODGED A STRONG PROTEST AGAINST THESE ACTIVITIES WHICH WERE INCONSISTENT WITH DIPLOMATIC PRACTICE AND INTERNATIONAL TREATIES AND AGREEMENTS.

(CMF) BBC MON 0822 22.1. CMH.

B8. EXPULSION (DETAILS) 2

THE IRAQI REPUBLIC GOVERNMENT REGARDS THE ABOVE-MENTIONED PERSONS AS PERSONAE NON GRATAE. IT REQUESTED THEIR DEPARTURE FROM THE COUNTRY WITHIN 24 HOURS. THE MINISTRY ALSO INFORMED THE FIRST SECRETARY OF THE GOVERNMENT'S DECISION TO CLOSE THE IRANIAN CONSULATES IN BAGHDAD, KARBALA AND BASRA. IT REQUESTED THE DEPARTURE OF ALL OFFICIALS FROM THESE CONSULATES WITHIN 24 HOURS.

THE AGENCY HAS ALSO LEARNED THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY HANDED THE IRANIAN SECRETARY A NOTE IN THIS CONNECTION.

(END) BBC MON 0823 22.1. CMH. KY TVN

NNNNQ

BBC B

''''U R G E N T ''''

B3 IRAQ EXPELS IRANIAN AMBASSADOR AND FOUR OTHERS

BAGHDAD RADIO REPORTED AT 0410 GMT THAT THE IRAQI GOVERNMENT HAD REQUESTED THE IRANIAN AMBASSADOR IN BAGHDAD AND FOUR OTHER IRANIAN DIPLOMATS TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY WITHIN 24 HOURS.

THE RADIO QUOTED AN IRAQI NEWS AGENCY REPORT THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY HAD CALLED THE IRANIAN EMBASSY FIRST SECRETARY AT 0245 (LOCAL TIME) TODAY AND INFORMED HIM OF THIS DECISION.

END BBC MON 0613 22/1 G.T. (KY) (TVN)

NNNNQ

BBC B

B4 IRAQ: ALL IRANIAN CONSULATES TO CLOSE (WITH B3)

BAGHDAD RADIO SAYS THAT THE IRAQI GOVERNMENT HAS DECIDED TO CLOSE ALL IRANIAN CONSULATES AND TO ASK THEIR STAFF TO LEAVE WITHIN 24 HOURS.

END BBC MON 0649 22/1 G.T. (KY) (TVN)

NNNNK
BBC B

B1 BAGHDAD EXECUTIONS: NAMES. (CORRECTING B94 YESTERDAY)

(MONITORING SERVICE NOTE) IN OUR B94, BAGHDAD TALLY UP TO 22,
SECOND TAKE, PRINTER 0015, PLEASE READ THE INDISTINCT NAME OF THE
EXECUTED CAPTAIN AS CAPTAIN MAJID TARDI (CRPT MAJID TARDI).

IN THE SAME TAKE, PLEASE READ THE NAME OF THE ACQUITTED MAN AS
RETIRED STAFF LT. COL. HAMID MUNIR (CRPT HAMID MUNIR)

(CED: BAGHDAD RADIO SIGNED OFF AT 2340 GMT)

END BBC MON 0108 22/1 G.T. (UPI/TVN)

NNNN

BBC B

B94 TALLY 2: NAMES

THE SIX WERE EXECUTED AT 00.45 (LOCAL TIME) ON 22ND JANUARY. THEY ARE COLONEL 'ALA AL-DIN AMIN AL-HISHMAH, RETIRED MAJOR SATTAR ABD AL-JABBAR AL-ABUDI, SERGEANT TAHIR HASAN HUSAYN, CAPTAIN (NAME INDISTINCT), FIRST LT ANWAR MUHAMMAD HUSAYN AL-JUMAYLI AND HASAN HUSAYN AL-KHATTAB.

FIRST LIEUTENANT AHMAD TURKI AND RETIRED STAFF LT. COL. HAMID (INDISTINCT) WERE ACQUITTED.

END BBC MON 0015 22/1 G.T. (TVN/UPI)

NNNN
BBC B

B92 IRAQI PLOT: BAGHDAD STATEMENT IMPLICATES +AMERICAN IMPERIALISM

(BAGHDAD RADIO UNSCHEDULED BULLETIN) A RESPONSIBLE SOURCE IN A
STATEMENT TO THE

IRAQI NEWS AGENCY ABOUT THE REACTIONARY
IMPERIALIST PLOT SAID (IN PART):

SINCE IMPERIALISM FAILED IN ITS WICKED ATTEMPT TO PLANT
THE PATH OF THE 17TH JULY REVOLUTION AND AFTER THE
DECISIVE VICTORY OF THE
EVOLUTION, IMPERIALIST AND REACTIONARY
CIRCLES BEGAN TO PLAN THE DOWNFALL OF THE
EVOLUTIONARY
PROGRESSIVE REGIME... AMERICAN IMPERIALISM AND THE CIA ASSUMED THE
TASK OF PLOTTING AGAINST THE REGIME, RELYING ON THE
REACTIONARY
AGENT GOVERNMENT OF IRAN AND WITH THE COOPERATION OF ZIONISM
AND THE AGENTS OF OIL MONOPOLIES AND ELEMENTS WHICH MA
CH IN THE
OF BRITISH IMPERIALISM...
ORB I
T

MF BBC MON 225

21/1 JM (TVN) (UPI)

NNNN
BBC B

B93 BAGHDAD: FOURTH NAMED: THREE ACQUITTED

(WITH B8
)

BAGHDAD RADIO SAID DEATH SENTENCES ON THE FOUR HAD BEEN

AT 22.45 LOCAL TIME LISTING THE SENTENCES, THE
RADIO SAID THAT RADI RAKAN HAD BEEN SENTENCED TO DEATH BY
HANGING, RETIRED POLICE BRIG. GEN. SHUKRI MAHMUD SALIH TO DEATH
BY FIRING SQUAD, RETI

ED POLICE LT. KHAZAL SABRI TO DEATH BY FIRING
SQUAD, SALMAN MAHDI AL-TAMIMI TO DEATH BY HANGING.

MF BBC MON 21/1 JM

F
B93 ACQUITTED 2: 10 YEAR SENTENCE (CORRECTS B8)

THE RADIO SAID THAT THE SOLDIER SALIH JABR HAD BEEN SENTENCED TO 10 YEARS' IMPRISONMENT - AND NOT LIFE IMPRISONMENT, AS STATED IN OUR B84.

THE COURT HAD RECOMMENDED THE CONFISCATION OF THE DEFENDANTS' MOVABLE AND IMMOVABLE PROPERTY.

MF BBC MON 21:1 JM

E
B93 ACQUITTED 3:

THE RADIO ALSO SAID THAT 1ST LT. ALI ABD KHAS, 1ST LT. ZAYDAN KHALAF AND LT. SAKIT SHIHAB MUHAMMAD HAD BEEN ACQUITTED.

END BBC MON 2302 21/1 JM (KY)

NNNN

BBC B

IN SERIAL B93, PSE READ SLUG CORRECTLY AS FOLLOWS:

B93 BAGHDAD: FOURTH GROUP NAMED: THREE ACQUITTED

NNNNN

BBC B

IN SERIAL B92 PSE READ IN FIRST LINE:

(BAGHDAD RADIO 21.23 GMT - UNSCHEDULED BULLETIN).....ETC

TTNNNN

BBC B

B92 IMPLICATES 2: INFILTRATION BY SECURITY MEN

(? UNCOVERY) OF THE WICKED PLOT BEGAN SIX MONTHS AFTER THE ADVENT OF THE REVOLUTION.

FROM THE BEGINNING ORGANS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SECURITY AND SAFETY OF THE REVOLUTION WERE ABLE TO ASCERTAIN THE ACTIVITIES OF THE PLOTTERS AND DECIDED TO INVOLVE THEMSELVES IN THEM BY INFILTRATING IN THEIR RANKS...

MF BBC MON 21/1 JM



NNNN

K
BBC B

'''''' U R G E N T ''''''

B94 BAGHDAD TALLY UP TO 22

(BAGHDAD RADIO - 22.00 GMT) THE IRAQI SPECIAL COURT HAS SENTENCED FIVE MORE OFFICERS TO DEATH BY FIRING SQUAD AND ANOTHER PERSON TO DEATH BY HANGING. TWO OFFICERS HAVE BEEN ACQUITTED.

THE DEATH SENTENCES HAVE ALREADY BEEN CARRIED OUT.

BRINGING THE TOTAL OF EXECUTIONS TO 22, AND OF DEATH SENTENCES TO 2

.)

(MORE POSSIBLE) BBC MON 2317 21/1 JM (CUP1) (TVN)

NNNN

BBC B

B92 IMPLICATES 3: IRAN'S HELP

THE AMERICAN CIA USED ITS INTELLIGENCE

ORGANS AND ALL THE
ORGANS OF THE IRANIAN STATE TO HELP THE PLOTTERS WITH EVERYTHING THEY NEEDED. A THIRD SECRETARY AT THE IRANIAN EMBASSY IN BAGHDAD WAS ENTRUSTED WITH THE TASK OF COORDINATING BETWEEN THE PLOTTERS, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SHAH AND THE CIA.

THE FIRST CONTACT BETWEEN THE PLOTTERS AND THE I

IRANIAN

EMBASSY SECRETARY

Y OCCURRED IN BAGHDAD IN (? APRIL) 1969. ON 28TH OCTOBER 1969 A NUMBER OF PLOTTERS HAD A MEETING IN KUWAIT WITH IRANIAN INTELLIGENCE WHO EXPRESSED TO THEM THE READINESS OF THE SHAH'S GOVERNMENT TO PLACE ALL THE

RESOURCES OF THE IRANIAN
GOVERNMENT AT THEIR DISPOSAL AND IMPRESSED ON THEM THAT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT WAS VERY EAGER TO PUT AN EARLY END TO THE REVOLUTIONARY REGIME...

MF BBC MON 2322 21/1 JM (CUP1) (TVN)

NNNN
BBC B

***** U R G E N T *****

B92 IMPLICATES 4: PLOTTERS +COUNTED ON+ AL-RAWI IN IRAN
(WITH B78 AND B72)

THE GROUP OF PLOTTERS COUNTED ON THE C
ABD AL-QHANI AL-RAWI, WHO SOUGHT REFUGE A FEW MONTHS AGO WITH THE
T GOVERNMENT OF I

IMINAL PLOTTER

AN AND ON A NUMBER OF RETIRED OSFICE

S...

AG
E

MF BBC MON 2329 21/1 JM (CUP1) (TVN)

NNNN
BBC B

B92 IMPLICATES 5: COUP PLANNED FOR 17TH

THE PLOTTERS FORMED A SPECIAL BODY FOR THE ASSASSINATION OF
LEADING MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNMENT AND PARTY. THE SECURITY ORGANS
WERE IN THE KNOW ABOUT THE DETAILS OF THE PLOT AS THEIR MEN
INFILTRATED INTO THE RANKS OF THE PLOTTERS. THEY HAVE SULL
RECORDS OF MOST OF THE MEETINGS AND THESE WILL BE MADE KNOWN.

THE PLOTTERS DECIDED TO CARRY OUT THE PLOT ON 17TH JANUARY.
THE REVOLUTION COMMAND, ANXIOUS TO AVOID BLOODSHED, ORDERED THE
ARREST OF ALL THE PLOTTERS THROUGHOUT IRAQ SIMULTANEOUSLY.

MF BBC MON 2334 21/1 JM (CUP1) (TVN)

NNNN
BBC B

B92 IMPLICATES 6: ARMS FROM IRAN: CIA INVOLVEMENT

CEC. THE STATEMENT ALSO SAID THAT AT THE MEETING IN KUWAIT
IN OCTOBER

IT WAS AGREED THAT IRAN SHOULD PROVIDE THE PLOTTERS
WITH FUNDS AND ARMS ACROSS THE IRANIAN-IRAQI FRONTIER. THE IRANIAN
GOVERNMENT HAD PROVIDED THE PLOTTERS WITH 1,000 MACHINE-GUNS IN
NOVEMBER AND A FURTHER 2,000 IN DECEMBER. THE MOVEMENT OF ARMS
FROM THE IRANIAN BORDER TO BAGHDAD HAD BEEN SUPERVISED BY TWO
AMERICAN OFFICERS WORKING FOR THE IIA. THE IRANIAN EMBASSY HAD
ALSO SUPPLIED THE PLOTTERS WITH SUBSTANTIAL FUNDS.)

ENE BBC MON 2338 21/1 JM (CUP1) (TVN)

OTTNNNN
BBC B

'-'''' U R G E N T ''''''

B88 BAGHDAD: MORE SENTENCES SHORTLY

BAGHDAD RADIO IN AN UNSCHEDULED BULLETIN AT 2115 GMT ANNOUNCED:

THE SPECIAL COURT IS CONTINUING ITS SESSION Q-TRY FURTHER
BATCHES OF PLOTTERS AGAINST THE 17TH JULY REVOLUTION. FURTHER
CES WILL BE ANNOUNCED SHORTLY.

SENT
E

END BBC MON 2224 21/1 JM (UPI) (TVN)

NNNN
BBC B
B89

+++++ U R G E N T ++++++

CORRECTION TO B84: FOUR MORE IRAQI EXECUTIONS

IN SERIAL B84, LINE TWO, PLEASE READ CORRECTLY
+ONE SENTENCED TO 10 YEARS' (RPT. 10 YEARS') IMPRISONMENT,+
NOT+LIFE IMPRISONMENT+ AS SENT IN ERROR.

END BBC MON 21/1 ZA 2234 KY TVN

NNNN

BB1 B

U R G E T

B84. IRAQ: FOUR MORE EXECUTED, ONE LIFE SENTENCE

BAGHEAD RADIO AT 2015 GMT ANNOUNCED THAT FOUR MORE PERSONS HAD BEEN EXECUTED AND ONE SENTENCED TO LIFE IMPRISONMENT.

(MORE POSSIBLE) BBC MON 2142 21.1. CMH. TVN KY

NNNN

BBC B

CORRECTION TO B 82. SECOND TAKE PLEASE

EAD

THIS HUMANE SITUATION IS QUITE THE OPPOSITE OF THE SITUATION IN ISRAEL....

AKBNNNN

BBC B

B85. PLOTTERS' SOLD THEMSELVES TO FOREIGNERS: BAGHDAD RADIO

(WITH

B53, 37, AND 20)

BAGHDAD RADIO BROADCAST A STATEMENT THIS EVENING, SIGNED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SPECIAL COURT, SAYING THAT THE SECOND GROUP OF SEVEN PLOTTERS WERE EXECUTED AT 19.30 LOCAL TIME TODAY.

THE STATEMENT WENT ON:

+THESE MEN SOLD THEMSELVES TO FOREIGNERS AND COMPETED TO RECEIVE EVIL MONEY FROM FOREIGNERS FOR UNDERMINING THE NATIONAL REGIME IN IRAQ, DESTROYING THE GAINS THE PEOPLE ACHIEVED BY

HEI

BLOOD AND SWEAT, SPREADING ANARCHY AND CONFUSION, PUSHING IRAQ INTO THE IMPERIALIST ORBIT, BRINGING ABOUT A REACTIONARY REGIME TO EASE PRESSURE ON ISRAEL, PREVENTING THE VALIANT IRAQI ARMY FROM DOING ITS NATIONAL PATRIOTIC DUTY TO FREE THE USURPED LAND AND BUILD UP THE GREATER HOMELAND, AND ISOLATING IRAQ FROM ITS FRATERNAL LIBERATED ARAB STATES.

MF BBC MON 2151 21/1 ZA

B85 SOLD 2: IMPERIALIST PLOT

+IT WAS FOR THIS REASON THAT FROM THE VERY BEGINNING THE BAATH REVOLUTION DECIDED TO DESTROY ALL THOSE WHO WERE TEMPTED TO COOPERATE WITH FOREIGNERS AND OPPOSE THE WILL OF THE PEOPLE, AND TO DO AWAY WITH ESPIONAGE AND SPYING IN IRAQ.

+THE IMPERIALIST STATES HAVE BEEN SHOCKED BY IRAQ'S GREAT REVOLUTION IN AGRICULTURE AND OIL AND MINERAL POLICIES, ITS CLEAR STAND ON THE PALESTINE QUESTION AND STATEMENT CONCERNING THE JUST AND DEMOCRATIC SOLUTION OF THE KURDISH PROBLEM AND WORK WITH THE KURDS TO BUILD THIS HOMELAND. THUS, THE IMPERIALISTS SENT THEIR AGENTS AND SPIES TO PLOT AGAINST THE REVOLUTION AND THE REGIME. BUT THE VIGILANCE OF THE PEOPLE AND THE ARMY PREVENTED THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THEIR PLOT.

MF BBC MON 21/1 ZA 2155

B85 SOLD 3

NNNN
BBC B

CORRECTION TO B 82. SECOND TAKE PLEASE

EAD

THIS HUMANE SITUATION IS QUITE THE OPPOSITE OF THE SITUATION
IN ISRAEL....

AKBNNNN

BBC B

B85 PLOTTERS' SOLE THEMSELVES TO FOREIGNERS: BAGHDAD RADIO

(WITH

B53, 37, AND 20)

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REGIME IN IRAQ, DESTROYING THE GAINS THE PEOPLE ACHIEVED BY
HEI

BLOOD AND SWEAT, SPREADING ANARCHY AND CONFUSION, PUSHING
IRAQ INTO THE IMPERIALIST ORBIT, BRINGING ABOUT A REACTIONARY
AGENT REGIME TO EASE PRESSURE ON ISRAEL, PREVENTING THE VALIANT
IRAQI ARMY FROM DOING ITS NATIONAL PATRIOTIC DUTY TO FREE THE
USURPED LAND AND BUILD UP THE GREATER HOMELAND, AND ISOLATING
IRAQ FROM ITS FRATERNAL LIBERATED ARAB STATES.

MF BBC MON 2151 21/1 ZA

B85 SOLD 2: IMPERIALIST PLOT

+IT WAS FOR THIS REASON THAT FROM THE VERY BEGINNING THE
BAATH REVOLUTION DECIDED TO DESTROY ALL THOSE WHO WERE TEMPTED
TO COOPERATE WITH FOREIGNERS AND OPPOSE THE WILL OF THE PEOPLE,
AND TO DO AWAY WITH ESPIONAGE AND SPYING IN IRAQ.

+THE IMPERIALIST STATES HAVE BEEN SHOCKED BY IRAQ'S
GREAT REVOLUTION IN AGRICULTURE AND OIL AND MINERAL POLICIES,
ITS CLEAR STAND ON THE PALESTINE QUESTION AND STATEMENT CONCERNING
THE JUST AND DEMOCRATIC SOLUTION OF THE KURDISH PROBLEM AND
WORK WITH THE KURDS TO BUILD THIS HOMELAND. THUS, THE IMPERIALISTS
SENT THEIR AGENTS AND SPIES TO PLOT AGAINST THE REVOLUTION
AND THE REGIME. BUT THE VIGILANCE OF THE PEOPLE AND THE ARMY
PREVENTED THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THEIR PLOT.

MF BBC MON 21/1 ZA 2155

B85 SOLD 3

+LET THE IMPERIALISTS AND THOSE RIDING ON THEIR BANDWAGON
KNOW THAT ALL THE PEOPLE WITH ALL THEIR RESOURCES ARE WATCHING
THEIR MOVEMENTS. HE WHO STANDS IN THE WAY OF THE PEOPLE AND THEIR
ASPIRATIONS WILL SOONER OR LATER RECEIVE HIS JUST PUNISHMENT.+

END BBC MON 21/1 ZA 2156 KY TVN

NNNN
BBC B

++++++ U R G E N T ++++++

B83 IN SERIAL B72 TWO MORE BAGHDAD DEATH SENTENCES),
A RECHECK CONFIRMS THAT ~~HE~~ FIRST SENTENCE OF TAKE TWO,
STATING THAT BOTH MEN WERE SENTENCED IN ABSENTIA, IS CORRECT
(RPT. CORRECT).

END BBC MON 20/1 ZA 2137 KY TVN

NNHN

BBC B

B78 BAGHDAD SENTENCES: MONITORING SERVICE NOTE (WITH B72)

ACCORDING TO OUR FILES A BRIG. GEN. ABD AL-GHANI AL-RAWI
WAS IRAQI DEPUTY PREMIER UNDER ARIF, IN 1967.

END BBC MON 21/1 ZA 2112 TVN

KUQB78 BAGHDAD SENTENCES: MONITORING SERVICE NOTE (WITH B72)

ACCORDING TO OUR FILES A BRIG. GEN. ABD AL-GHANI AL-RAWI
WAS I
AQI DEPUTY PREMIER UNDER ARIF, IN 1967.

END BBC MON 21/1 ZA 2112 TVN

UAB76 HOLD HOLD HOLD

IN B72 (TWO MORE DEATH SENTENCES IN BAGHDAD) PLEASE HOLD
FIRST SENTENCE OF TAKE TWO STATING THAT BOTH MEN WERE SENTENCED
IN ABSENTIA.

NEW VERSIO OF ITEM NOW AVAILABLE HERE CONFIRMS THAT
MAJ-GEN ABD AL-GHANI AL-RAWI WAS SENTENCED IN ABSENTIA BUT
SAYS NOTHING CONCERNING WHEREABOUTS OF SECON ACCUSED.
CHECKING URGENTLY

END BBC MON 21/1 ZA 2058 TVN

NNNN
BBC B

'''-''' U R G E N T '''-'''

B72 BAGHDAD: TWO MORE DEATH SENTENCES

BAGHDAD RADIO AT 1912 GMT REPORTS THAT TWO MORE PERSONS
HAVE BEEN SENTENCED TO DEATH.

(MORE POSSIBLE) BBC MON 2018 21/1 JM (KY) (TVN)

NNNN
BBC B

B72 SENTENCES 2: IN ABSENTIA

THE TWO MEN WERE BOTH SENTENCED IN ABSENTIA.

THEY ARE

ETIRED MAJOR GENERAL ABD AL-GHANI AL-RAWI - TO BE
EXECUTED BY FIRING SQUAD, AND SHAMIL MUHAMMAD AL-HASAN - TO BE
EXECUTED BY HANGING.

HE COU

T RECOMMENDS THAT THEIR MOVABLE AND IMMOVABLE PROPERTY
BE CONFISCATED.

END BBC MON 2028 21/1 JM (TVN)

NNNN
BBC B

B73 IRAQ: AL-BAKR APPROVES DEATH SENTENCES

(BAGHDAD RADIO) THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC AND CHAIRMAN
OF THE REVOLUTIONARY COMMUNIST COUNCIL, AHMAD HASAN AL-BAKR,
TODAY CONFIRMED THE SENTENCES PASSED BY THE SPECIAL COURT ON THOSE
TAKING PART IN THE PLOT ENGINEERED BY RANCOROUS ELEMENTS IN
COLLABORATION WITH THE AGENTS OF IMPERIALISM.

END BBC MON 2035 21/1 ZA UPI TVN

QNNN

BBC B

BAGHDAD: KURDISH PARTY DENOUNCES COUP ATTEMPT

(IRAQI NEWS AGENCY - INA) BAGHDAD: THE KURDISTANI DEMOCRATIC PARTY HAS DENOUNCED THE ABORTIVE ATTEMPT CARRIED OUT LAST NIGHT BY REACTIONARIES AGAINST THE IRAQI REGIME AND PEOPLE.

THE PARTY SENT A CABLE TO PRESIDENT AL-BAKR SAYING THAT THE PARTY, ALL ITS MEMBERS, SUPPORTERS AND FORCES ARE PREPARED TO SACRIFICE THEIR LIVES TO PRESERVE OUR HEROIC REPUBLIC AND PROGRESSIVE REGIME AND CRUSH EVERY PLOT WHICH ANY REACTIONARY GROUP, KURDISH OR ARAB, MIGHT CONTEMPLATE.

END BBC MON (KY) 21/1 1845 SWD

MNNN

BBC B

'''''''' U R G E N T ''''''''

B56 IRAQ: SECOND GROUP OF PLOTTERS NAMED (WITH B51, NOW CLOSED)

(BAGHDAD RADIO 1712 GMT) THE SPECIAL COURT ISSUED THE FOLLOWING VERDICT IN THE TRIAL OF THE SECOND GROUP OF DEFENDANTS.

1. CRIMINALS STAFF COL. FADIL MUSTAFA AHMAD, RETIRED COL. JABIR HASAN HADDAD, RETIRED STAFF COL. SALMAN DAWUD ABD AL-SALAM AL-DARDAZALI, RETIRED POLICE LT. COL. ABBAS JAWAD AL-SALAMI LT. ADNAN HUSAYN, STAFF SGT. ALI SALIH KHUDAYYIR AL-SHARSHAH, AND DR. NIZAM AL-DIN ARIF ARE SENTENCED TO DEATH.

THE MILITARY MEN WILL BE EXECUTED BY FIRING SQUAD AND THE CIVILIANS WILL BE HANGED. THOSE WHO ARE STILL IN ARMY SERVICE WILL BE DISMISSED.

MF BBC MON 21/1 (TVN) 1854 S SECOND GROUP -2: SEIZURE OF PROPERTY

2. THEIR CRIME WILL BE CONSIDERED AN ORDINARY VIOLATION OF HONOUR IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AMENDED LAW NO THREE OF 1967 ON REHABILITATION.

3. THE COURT RECOMMENDS CONFISCATION OF THEIR MOVABLE AND IMMOVABLE PROPERTY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE PROVISIONAL CONSTITUTION. THE VERDICT WAS ISSUED UNANIMOUSLY AND MADE PUBLIC ON 21ST JANUARY 1970.

SIGNED: TAHA AL-JAZRAWI, PRESIDENT OF THE SPECIAL COURT. NAZIM KIZAR, MEMBER AND ALI RIDA, MEMBER.

END BBC MON 21/1 (KYL (TVN) 1856 SWD

NNNN

BBC B

U R G E N T

B53 BAGHDAD: SECOND GROUP EXECUTED

(THE IRAQI NEWS AGENCY) 1732 GMT: REPORTS THAT THE SEVEN DEFENDANTS IN THE SECOND GROUP OF PLOTTERS HAVE BEEN EXECUTED.

END BBC MON 21/1 (KY) 21/1 18.40 SWD

QNNN

BBC B

+++++ U R G E N T +++++

B51 BAGHDAD: SEVEN MORE DEATH SENTENCES

BAGHDAD RADIO 1713 GMT ANNOUNCED THAT THE SPECIAL COURT
HAS SENTENCED SEVEN MORE PERSONS TO DEATH IN THE TRIAL OF A SECOND
GROUP OF DEFENDANTS.

(MORE POSSIBLE) BBC MON 21/1 ZA 1824 TVN

N NN
BBC B

MB44. BAGHDAD : PUBLIC FUNERAL FOR TWO +MARTYRS+ TOMORROW

(BAGHDAD RADIO) THE FUNERAL OF TWO MARTYRS OF OUR TWO VALIANT
ARMED FORCES WHO FELL YESTERDAY DEFENDING THE HONOUR OF OUR HOMELAND
AND THE AIMS OF THE REVOLUTION WILL TAKE PLACE AT NOON TOMORROW.

WE CALL ON ALL POPULAR ORGANISATIONS AND TRADE UNIONS AND ALL
SONS OF THE PEOPLE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FUNERAL PROCESSION OF THE
MARTYRS.

(END) BBC MON 1656 21.1. CMH. TVN KY

AGAINST THE IRAQI PEOPLE AND FOR SELLING THEMSELVES OUT TO THE
DESTROY THE GREAT ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE 17 JULY
REVOLUTION - THE GENUINE BAATH REVOLUTION - AND TO DO AWAY WITH
THE GAINS PREVAILED ACHIEVED BY ALL OF THE PEOPLE, PEASANTS,
WORKERS, AND REVOLUTIONARY MILITARY MEN.

MF BBC MON 1550 21/1 JMA

B37 EXECUTIONS 3

THEY SOUGHT TO TURN IRAQ BACK TO THE DAYS BEFORE 14TH JULY, TO
THE ERA OF FEUDALISM, REACTION, AND EXPLOITATION, TO PREVENT IRAQ
FROM FULFILLING ITS IMMORTAL MISSION TO LIBERATE PALESTINE AND THE
OTHER OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORY AND TO UNIFY THE ARAB COUNTRIES. ONE'
BEHAVIOUR REFLECTS ONE'S CHARACTER. WE WRONGED THEM NOT, THEY
WRONGED THEMSELVES.

SIGNED: PRESIDENT OF THE SPECIAL COURT, TAHA AL-JAZRAWI.

END BBC MON 1553 21/1 JMA (KY) TVN

NNNN

BBP B

''-''-'' U R G E N T ''''''

B30 IRAQI SPECIAL COURT STILL IN SESSION

(BAGHDAD RADIO - 14.48 GMT) THE SPECIAL COURT SET UP IN
ACCORDANCE WITH DECISION NO 72 ISSUED BY THE REVOLUTION COMMAND
COUNCIL TO TRY THOSE INVOLVED IN THE ABORTIVE PLOT, IS STILL IN
SESSION IN ORDER TO PRONOUNCE ITS JUST SENTENCES ON OTHER BATCHES O
PLOTTERS.

END BBC MON 1557 21/1 JMA UPI/TVN

NEQ 1/6

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3

CYPHER/CAT A

RESTRICTED

IMMEDIATE FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE.

TELEGRAM NUMBER 71.

TO BAGHDAD.

22 JANUARY 1970.

(N.E.D.)

RESTRICTED.

TIME FACTOR: ACTION 9 A.M. LOCAL TIME.

FOLLOWING FROM RESIDENT CLERK.

AFTER AN ATTEMPT TO DELIVER IT TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE, A SAYID ABBAS ALKHERSAN (AN IRAQI MANAGING DIRECTOR OF SICOMA LTD) HAS HANDED IN AN APPEAL FOR HELP IN SAVING THE LIFE OF HIS SISTER DR. FATIMA ALKIRSAN. HE HEARD THIS EVENING OVER THE RADIO THAT IRAQI AUTHORITIES HAD NAMED HER IN LATEST LIST OF SUPPOSED CONSPIRATORS, AND FEARS SHE MAY BE EXECUTED WITHOUT DELAY. HE ADDS THAT SHE IS INNOCENT AND HER ARREST IS DIRECTED THROUGH HER AGAINST HIM.

2. I HAVE CONSULTED THE DEPARTMENT WHO HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO REFER TO FILES. THEY WOULD BE GRATEFUL FOR ANY INFORMATION ON DR. FATIMA ALKIRSAN AND YOUR RECOMMENDATIONS ABOUT ACTION YOU OR WE MIGHT TAKE. IF PERSON IS KNOWN TO YOU AND YOU JUDGE THAT SWIFT ACTION IS NECESSARY YOU HAVE DISCRETION TO TAKE WHATEVER STEPS YOU CONSIDER APPROPRIATE WITH THE IRAQI AUTHORITIES.

STEWART.

FILES:

N.EASTERN D.
PRIVATE SECRETARY
MR. HAYMAN
MR. ARTHUR

RESTRICTED

DDDDD

*This is a reply to this
now. PMAA 231. - see Folio 1*

①

Mr. Tripp*Mr. [Signature]**J.R. [Signature]*
22.1

RECEIVED IN REGISTRY No. 10 26 JAN 1970 NEQ 1/6 (4)
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*h. Hayman**J.S. [Signature]*
22/1.

According to reports from Baghdad Radio the Iraqi Government foiled an attempted coup in the early hours of yesterday morning. Some fighting appears to have taken place as two Iraqi soldiers were killed. A three man tribunal has been in non-stop session trying the plotters and so far 29, mostly retired officers, have been executed.

2. Earlier broadcasts accused the United States, West Germany and Britain of being behind the plot. More recently Iran has been specifically accused and five Iranian diplomats including the Ambassador have been expelled from Baghdad. The Iraqis claim to have evidence that the plot was directed from Tehran, that an Iranian military airfield was placed at the disposal of the conspirators and that a proclamation to be issued after the revolution was drafted in Tehran. And there had been no further mention of British complicity and I suspect that the full power of Iraqi invective will be turned on the Iranians.

3. The "martyred" soldiers are to be given a state funeral either today or tomorrow and no doubt this will be an occasion for a large-scale demonstration. Although the Iranians will be the

/most

CONFIDENTIAL

most likely target for demonstrators, it is just possible, because of the unfavourable mention of British involvement, that the British Embassy may be a target.as well. No doubt we will be getting a report from Baghdad on the situation some time this morning.

P. R. M. Hinchcliffe

(P. R. M. Hinchcliffe)

22 January, 1970

c.c.

Mr. Makinson
Mr. Blellock, Consular Department.

R. Mayman

22.1.70.

Mr. Huang to see
22.1.

~~NED~~

leg & P. H. M. A

23/.

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CONFIDENTIAL

(5)

CYPHER CAT A

IMMEDIATE BAGHDAD TO FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE
TELEGRAM NUMBER 62 22 JAN 1970

RECEIVED IN REGISTRY No. 10 23 JAN 1970 NEQ 1/6 (5)
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Pa. M/M
261,

CONFIDENTIAL

ADDRESSED TO FCO TELNO 62 OF 22 JAN
RFI PRIORITY AMMAN BAHRAIN RESIDENCY BEIRUT CAIRO JEDDA KUWAIT
TEL AVIV TEHRAN ALGIERS KHARTOUM RABAT TRIPOLI TUNIS WASHINGTON
AND UKMIS NEW YORK.

ATTEMPTED COUP

YOU WILL BE AWARE FROM MONITORING REPORTS OF THE OFFICIAL
IRAQI STATEMENTS AND COMMENTS ABOUT THE ABORTIVE ATTEMPT, TIMED
FOR THE NIGHT OF 20/21 JAN, TO OVERTHROW THE GOVERNMENT, THE
SENTENCES PASSED ON THOSE TAKING PART, THE EXECUTION OF SIX OTHERS
WHO HAD BEEN IMPRISONED FOR SOME TIME AND WERE ALREADY
UNDER SENTENCE OF DEATH, THE EXPULSION OF THE IRANIAN AMBASSADOR
AND FOUR MEMBERS OF HIS STAFF AND THE CLOSURE OF THE IRAN-
IAN CONSULATES IN KERBALA AND BASRA.

2. WE SEE NO REASON TO DOUBT THE IRAQIS' ASSERTION
THAT THE IRANIAN AUTHORITIES INSTIGATED OR ENCOURAGED THE
ATTEMPTED COUP. THE IRAQIS CLAIM THAT THEY ARE IN POSSESSION
OF RECORDINGS OF MOST OF THE CONSPIRATORS MEETINGS AND THAT
THEY WERE WATCHING THE CONSPIRACY FROM ITS EARLIEST DAYS.

THIS SEEMS TO BE BORNE OUT BY THEIR APPARENT CONFIDENCE
IN THAT THEY WAITED TO CRUSH THE RISING UNTIL THE VERY LAST
MOMENT AND SO FAR AS WE CAN SEE TOOK ONLY SLIGHT ADDITIONAL
PRECAUTIONS FOR THE SECURITY OF KEY POINTS IN BAGHDAD ON
THE NIGHT OF 20/21 JANUARY OR SUBSEQUENTLY. IT IS
ALSO NOTABLE THAT AMONG THOSE CONSPIRATORS NAMED SO FAR THERE ARE
FEW, IF ANY, SENIOR OFFICERS IN RESPONSIBLE POSITIONS SUCH
AS WOULD BE NEEDED TO

/ASSURE

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ASSURE THE SUCCESS OF A COUP. FURTHERMORE, THE EXECUTIONS WERE CARRIED OUT SO QUICKLY THAT THERE COULD HAVE BEEN LITTLE TIME FOR INTERROGATION, AS THOUGH THE AUTHORITIES WERE CERTAIN THEY KNEW ALL THEY NEEDED TO KNOW ALREADY.

3. REPORTS SO FAR AVAILABLE INDICATE THAT THERE WAS SOME FIRING ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF BAGHDAD EARLY ON 21 JANUARY. THE FUNERAL TODAY OF TWO QUOTE MARTYRS UNQUOTE IMPLIES THAT THERE WAS A CLASH BUT ON A SMALL SCALE. EXCEPT FOR THIS AND FOR DEMONSTRATION OUTSIDE THE IRANIAN EMBASSY TODAY, BAGHDAD HAS BEEN NORMAL TO ALL APPEARANCES SINCE THE ATTEMPT.

4. THESE FACTS INCLINE ME TO BELIEVE THAT THE AUTHORITIES HAD THOROUGHLY PENETRATED THE PLOTTERS' ORGANISATION AND WERE PERHAPS CONTROLLING A NUMBER OF SENIOR SERVING OFFICERS (WHOSE NAMES HAVE NOT BEEN DISCLOSED) ON WHO THE CONSPIRACY HAD RELIED.

THE BAATHISTS THUS HAD NOTHING TO FEAR FROM THE ATTEMPT AND WERE CONTENT TO LET IT COME TO A HEAD SO THAT THOSE CONCERNED SHOWED THEMSELVES AND WERE CAUGHT RED-HANDED. THEY WILL ALSO HAVE WISHED TO PROFIT FROM BEING ABLE TO DEMONSTRATE THE IRANIANS' INVOLVEMENT.

5. OFFICIAL COMMENT HAS SO FAR PRODUCED NO CONVINCING EVIDENCE TO BACK UP ASSERTIONS OF CIA COMPLICITY, BUT THE BAATHISTS WILL NO DOUBT USE THE PLOT AS ANOTHER STICK WITH WHICH TO BEAT THE AMERICANS AND WILL TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY IT PROVIDES TO IMPLICATE AND DEAL WITH ANY OTHER OPPOSITION GROUPS. THE EXECUTION OF THE SIX WHO WERE SENTENCED TO DEATH LAST NOVEMBER FOR SPYING FOR THE CIA (MY TELNOS 977 OF 24 NOVEMBER AND 982 OF 27 NOVEMBER) IS PROBABLY TO BE INTERPRETED IN THIS WAY.

6. LITTLE LIGHT IS THROWN ON THE POLITICAL LEANINGS OF THE CONSPIRATORS BY STUDYING THE NAMES OF THE 24 EXECUTED TO DATE. TWO OF THEM CERTAINLY HAD CONNECTIONS WITH THE OLD MONARCHIST REGIME AND IT IS PROBABLY SAFE TO ASSUME THAT BY BA'ATHIST STANDARDS THE CONSPIRACY WAS QUOTE REACTIONARY UNQUOTE.

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BAGHDAD TELNO 62 TO FCO

-3-

7. THE REGIMES SELF-CONFIDENCE SEEMS LIKELY TO BE INCREASED BY THEIR SUCCESSFUL HANDLING OF THIS AFFAIR.

FCO PASS PRIORITY TO POSTS IN PREAMBLE.

MR. BALFOUR PAUL

[REPEATED AS REQUESTED]

FCO/WHITEHALL DISTRIBUTION
N. EAST. D.

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CYPHER CAT A
IMMEDIATE BAGHDAD
TELEGRAM NUMBER 65

TO FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE
22 JANUARY 1970

RECEIVED IN REGISTRY No. 10 23 JAN 1970 NEQ 1/6 (6)
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ADDRESSED TO FCO TELNO. 65 OF 22 JANUARY REPEATED FOR
INFORMATION TO AMMAN CAIRO BEIRUT JADDA TEHRAN BAHRAIN RESIDENCY
KUWAIT AND WASHINGTON.

MY TELNO. 62: ATTEMPTED COUP. (5)

BAGHDAD RADIO ANNOUNCEMENTS DURING AFTERNOON OF 21 JANUARY
MAY HAVE MADE ONE OR TWO UNEMPHATIC ALLEGATIONS OF
BRITISH (AS WELL AS AMERICAN) BACKING. TODAY'S OFFICIAL
ANNOUNCEMENT IS EVEN LESS EMPHATIC AS FAR AS BRITISH
INVOLVEMENT IS CONCERNED. RESPONSIBILITY IS LAID ON
AMERICAN IMPERIALISM, THE C.I.A., IRAN, ZIONISM,
THE AGENTS OF OIL MONOPOLIES, AND QUOTE THE ELEMENTS
THAT TRAILED BEHIND BRITISH IMPERIALISM UNQUOTE (IN THAT
ORDER).

2. THERE IS PLENTY OF EVIDENCE THAT A PLOT (WITH IRANIAN
BACKING) EXISTED. HOWEVER SAVAGE THE SPEED AND SCALE
OF THE EXECUTIONS, WE HAVE NO REASON TO SUPPOSE THAT
CONVICTED WERE NOT INVOLVED.

3. I HOPE THAT THE EXECUTION, UNDER COVER OF THIS BLOOD-
BATH, OF THE ALLEGED C.I.A. SPIES ALREADY UNDER
SENTENCE OF DEATH, WILL NOT BE USED BY THE UNITED
KINGDOM PRESS TO CAST RIDICULE ON THE AUTHENTICITY OF
THE ATTEMPTED COUP. THIS WOULD DO NO-ONE ANY GOOD AND

WOULD ONLY INCREASE ANY SUSPICIONS WHICH MAY EXIST
OF BRITISH COMPLICITY AND JEOPARDISE RELATIONS.

FCO PASS PRIORITY TO AMMAN CAIRO BEIRUT JEDDA TEHRAN BAHRAIN
(RESIDENCY) KUWAIT AND WASHINGTON.

MR. BALFOUR PAUL

/REPEATED AS REQUESTED/

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(7)

CYPHER CAT A

IMMEDIATE BAGHDAD

TO FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE

TELEGRAM NUMBER 69

23 JANUARY 1970

P.a
PMM

26/1

RECEIVED IN
REGISTRY No. 10
26 JAN 1970

COPY TOP

NEG 1/6

CONFIDENTIAL. (6)

MY TELNO 65: ATTEMPTED COUP.

I WAS SUMMONED THIS AFTERNOON (FRIDAY) BY THE MR UNDEC/OF POLITICAL AFFAIRS EXPLAINING THAT HE WAS ACTING ON THE MINISTERS' PERSONAL INSTRUCTIONS, HE SAID THAT THE COMMENTS OF THE BBC ARABIC SERVICE (AT /SIC/ 600 HOURS GMT YESTERDAY AND THEREAFTER) AND OF THE TIMES TODAY, REFERRING TO THE BLOODTHIRSTY YOUNG OFFICERS WHO HAD SEIZED POWER IN IRAQ (OR WORDS TO THAT EFFECT), HAD CAUSED RESENTMENT AND WOULD IF CONTINUED, SERIOUSLY DAMAGE THE QUOTE GOOD RELATIONS WHICH NOW EXIST UNQUOTE AND WHICH THE IRAQ GOVERNMENT WAS ANXIOUS TO FOSTER. THE MINISTER KNEW, HE SAID, THAT H.M.G. DO NOT CONTROL THE BBC OR THE PRESS BUT WOULD BE GRATEFUL IF YOU COULD RESTRAIN THEM A LITTLE. THE IRAQ GOVERNMENT HAD A HIGH REGARD FOR THE BBC AND WERE PARTICULARLY SENSITIVE TO ITS ATTACKS ON THEM AS INDIVIDUALS. MOREOVER THERE HAD EVEN BEEN SUGGESTIONS ON THE BBC (HE WAS UNABLE TO IDENTIFY THEM) THAT THE CONSPIRATORS WERE TO BE PRAISED AND THAT THE COMPLICITY OF IRAN WAS IMAGINARY. IF BRITISH INFORMATION MEDIA PURSUED EITHER OF THESE LINES, THE IRAQI GOVERNMENT WOULD BE COMPELLED TO REACT.

2. I SAID THAT NO ONE IN BRITAIN QUESTIONED THE RIGHT OF ANY GOVERNMENT TO PUNISH PROPERLY CONVICTED CRIMINALS BUT HE MUST REALIZE THAT THE BRITISH PUBLIC AND PRESS COULD NOT BE EXPECTED TO STOMACH THE MANNER IN WHICH THE GOVERNMENT HAD EXERCISED THIS RIGHT. SUMMARY MASS EXECUTIONS, WITHOUT EVEN SUCH PROCESSES /OF

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

- 2 -

OF LAW AS THE CIVILIZED WORLD CONSIDERS FUNDAMENTAL, INEVITABLY CAUSED HORROR IN MY COUNTRY, NOR COULD H.M.G. PROHIBIT OR RESTRAIN IT. AND AT WHO ELSE COULD CRITICISM BE DIRECTED SAVE MEMBERS OF THE IRAQ GOVERNMENTS, SINCE NO JUDICIARY WERE INVOLVED? MOREOVER, IF RELATIONS DEPENDED ON PRESS AND RADIO COMMENT, THE IRAQI PRESS AND RADIO WOULD HAVE PUT AN END TO THEM LONG AGO. THEY PERPETUALLY ATTACKED MY COUNTRY FOR PUPLOCITY, WARMONGERING, IMPERIALISM AND GOD KNOWS WHAT, AND WERE NOW EVEN SUGGESTING THAT WE WERE BEHIND THE RECENT PLOT.

4. DR. DAUD ASSURED ME THAT HIS GOVERNMENT HARBOURED NO SUCH SUSPICIONS, BUT IF BRITAIN TRIED TO THROW DOUBT ON THE PLOT OR TO WHITEWASH THE IRANIANS, SUSPICIONS WOULD BE CREATED. HE BEGGED ME ONCE MORE TO CONVEY THE MINISTERS MESSAGE. I REPEATED MY COMMENTS AND HE SAID HE WOULD CONVEY THEM AT ONCE TO SHEIKLY.

5. THE EXISTENCE OF A PLOT DIRECTLY INVOLVING THE IRANIANS IS , AS WE KNOW, BEYOND QUESTION. I HOPE THAT THE BBC AND RESPONSIBLE EDITORS CAN BE MADE AWARE OF THIS. OTHERWISE (AND APART FROM OTHER MORE SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES) THEY MAKE THEMSELVES LOOK FOOLISH.

6. PLEASE REPEAT TO OTHER POSTS IF YOU CONSIDER ANY NEED HAVE IT
MR. BALFOUR PAUL

DEPARTMENTAL DISTRIBUTION

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N.A.D.

ARABIAN DEPT.

D.P.D.

P.U.S.D.

I.R.D.

NEWS DEPT.

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8

CYPHER/CAT A

IMMEDIATE BAGHDAD

TELEGRAM NO 70

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

TO FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE

24 JANUARY 1970

RECEIVED IN REGISTRY No. 10 26 JAN 1970 NEG 1/6
--

MY TELNO 69 EXECUTIONS IN IRAQ.

GRATEFUL TO KNOW WHAT LINE NEWS DEPARTMENT ARE OR HAVE BEEN
TAKING. I AM SOMEWHAT IN THE DARK.

2. POLICE HAVE JUST TAKEN UP POSITIONS ROUND THE EMBASSY
IN ANTICIPATION OF AN UNFRIENDLY DEMONSTRATION. ARE SIMILAR
MANIFESTATIONS EXPECTED AT IRAQI EMBASSY IN LONDON?

MR. BALFOUR PAUL

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CYPHER CAT A

IMMEDIATE FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE

TELEGRAM NUMBER 80

TO BAGHDAD

24 JANUARY 1970

(NED)

CONFIDENTIAL.

YOUR TELEGRAMS 69 AND 70.

NEWS DEPARTMENT HAVE BEEN CAREFUL TO AVOID COMMENT ON THE EVENTS IN IRAQ. THEY HAVE HOWEVER DRAWN ON THE INFORMATION IN YOUR TELEGRAMS IN BRIEFING TRUSTED CORRESPONDENTS ONLY. IN RESPONSE TO ENQUIRIES THEY HAVE CONFIRMED YOUR CALL AT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY YESTERDAY.

2. NEITHER WE NOR SPECIAL BRANCH HAVE ANY INFORMATION THAT ANY DEMONSTRATION IS INTENDED AT THE IRAQI EMBASSY IN LONDON.

STEWART

DEPARTMENTAL DISTRIBUTION
N. EASTERN D.
NEWS D.
N. AFR. D.
ARABIAN D.
P.U.S.D.
PROTOCOL & CONF. D.
CONS. D.

CONFIDENTIAL

Re AMM
261

Reg & Co. Iraqi Trust

NEQ 1/6

(10)



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Sayid Abbas Alkhersan (Iraqi) Managing Director. Zouheir Al-Shalak (Syrian). Advocate Dr. F. Al-Kirsan (Iraqi). S. J. Culnane.

The Rt.Hon Michael Stewart,
Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs,
Whitehall,
London. S.W.1.

21st. January, 1970.

Now see fD

Your Excellency,

Within the hour over the Radio the Iraqi Authorities have named my sister Dr. Fatima Alkirsan in the latest list of supposed conspirators. They are shooting and hanging people as they arrest them. She is a lady of distinguished standing in her Country, a mother of two children. She is an innocent person and this action is directed through her against me. I beg you to use your good Office in the best manner you judge to save her. She is alone with her husband abroad at this moment.

We have corresponded concerning the Iraqi problem.

I am, Sir,

A. Alkhersan

Reg 86 Iron Trade

11



Telephone 01-370 1381 Telegraphic Address COMASI LONDON SW10

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Directors: H.R.H. Prince Yazid Bin Abdullah Bin Abdul Rahman (Saudi Arabia) Chairman.

Sayid Abbas Alkheran (Iraqi) Managing Director. Zouheir Al-Shalak (Syrian). Advocate Dr. F. Al-Kiraan (Iraqi). S. J. Culnane.

The Rt.Hon.Michael Stewart.M.P.,
Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs,
Whitehall,
London. S.W.1.

21st.January,1970.

Your Excellency,

Further to my letter which I sent this evening,
as I understand the situation in Iraq the strong man in the Iraqi
Government at present is Saddam Hussain Al-Tikriti - the Vice
President. I know that Al-Tikriti has a good relationship with
Sheikh Saaïd of Abu Dhabi and a request from Sheikh Saaïd might
influence him if you should consider it opportune to use your good
Office through the Sheikh.

K. Alkheran

I am, Sir,

A. Alkheran

1/22/1
Private Secretary

c.c. Mr. Arthur


Plea by Iraqi businessman

Flag A The attached letters from an Iraqi, Sayid Abbas al Khersan, the Managing Director of an Arab company operating in this country, were received by the Resident Clerk in the early hours of this morning. The Resident Clerk after consulting a member of the department sent a telegram to Baghdad asking for information on Sayid Abbas' sister and for any recommendation on how the matter should be handled. Baghdad have now replied confirming that the person concerned had been accused by the Iraqis of being involved in the abortive coup of 21 January.

Flag B

2. We have no locus standi since Sayid Abbas' sister is an Iraqi subject. I agree with the assessment of H.M. Ambassador, Baghdad about the inadvisability of intervention by us. Nor do I see any advantage in involving Sheikh Zaid of Abu Dhabi as suggested in Sayid Abbas' second letter. He would, I am sure, be extremely loath to involve himself in a case concerning a person, unknown to him, regarded by the Iraqis as implicated in a plot to overthrow their government.

... 3. I attach a draft reply to Sayid Abbas.


lv (J. P. Tripp)
Near Eastern Department
22 January, 1970

VE

OTHER/CAT A

RESTRICTED

IMMEDIATE FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE.

TO BAGHDAD.

TELEGRAM NUMBER 71.

22 JANUARY 1970.

(N.E.D.)

RESTRICTED.

TIME FACTOR: ACTION 9 A.M. LOCAL TIME.

FOLLOWING FROM RESIDENT CLERK.

AFTER AN ATTEMPT TO DELIVER IT TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE, A SAYID ABBAS ALKHERSAN (AN IRAQI MANAGING DIRECTOR OF SICOMA LTD) HAS HANDED IN AN APPEAL FOR HELP IN SAVING THE LIFE OF HIS SISTER DR. FATIMA ALKIRSAN. HE HEARD THIS EVENING OVER THE RADIO THAT IRAQI AUTHORITIES HAD NAMED HER IN LATEST LIST OF SUPPOSED CONSPIRATORS, AND FEARS SHE MAY BE EXECUTED WITHOUT DELAY. HE ADDS THAT SHE IS INNOCENT AND HER ARREST IS DIRECTED THROUGH HER AGAINST HIM.

2. I HAVE CONSULTED THE DEPARTMENT WHO HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO REFER TO FILES. THEY WOULD BE GRATEFUL FOR ANY INFORMATION ON DR. FATIMA ALKIRSAN AND YOUR RECOMMENDATIONS ABOUT ACTION YOU OR WE MIGHT TAKE. IF PERSON IS KNOWN TO YOU AND YOU JUDGE THAT SWIFT ACTION IS NECESSARY YOU HAVE DISCRETION TO TAKE WHATEVER STEPS YOU CONSIDER APPROPRIATE WITH THE IRAQI AUTHORITIES.

STEWART.

FILES:

N.EASTERN D.

PRIVATE SECRETARY

MR. HAYMAN

MR. ARTHUR

RESTRICTED

DDDDD

Mr. Bushnell

21.1.

CYPHER

IMMEDIATE

CYPHER/CAT A

IMMEDIATE BAGHDAD
TELEGRAM NUMBER 59

• TO FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE
22 JANUARY 1970
ADVANCE COPIES

YOUR TELNO 71

S Q

E.O.
P.S.
P.U.S.
Mr. Haymer
Mr. Abbott
Mr. [unclear]

ACCORDING TO OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT JUST PUBLISHED THE
LADY CONCERNED (A GYNAECOLOGIST WHO WAS CONSULTED BY A
MEMBER OF MY STAFF IN MAY AND OCTOBER 1969) IS ONE OF
TWO PEOPLE IN WHOSE HOUSES THE CONSPIRACY WAS DISCUSSED WITH
IRANIANS. WE HAVE NO REASON TO DOUBT THIS. THE OTHER
HAS ALREADY BEEN EXECUTED.

file

2. ANY SUGGESTION THAT WE MIGHT INTERVENE ON HER BEHALF
IS, I FEAR, OUT OF THE QUESTION.

BALFOUR PAUL

SENT AT 0800Z /22 JAN 1970
RECD AT 0932Z /20 JAN 1970

Regula
MM
201.

NE 1
13

22 January, 1970

The Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary has asked me to reply to your two letters of 21 January about the plight of your sister, Dr. Fatima al Khersan.

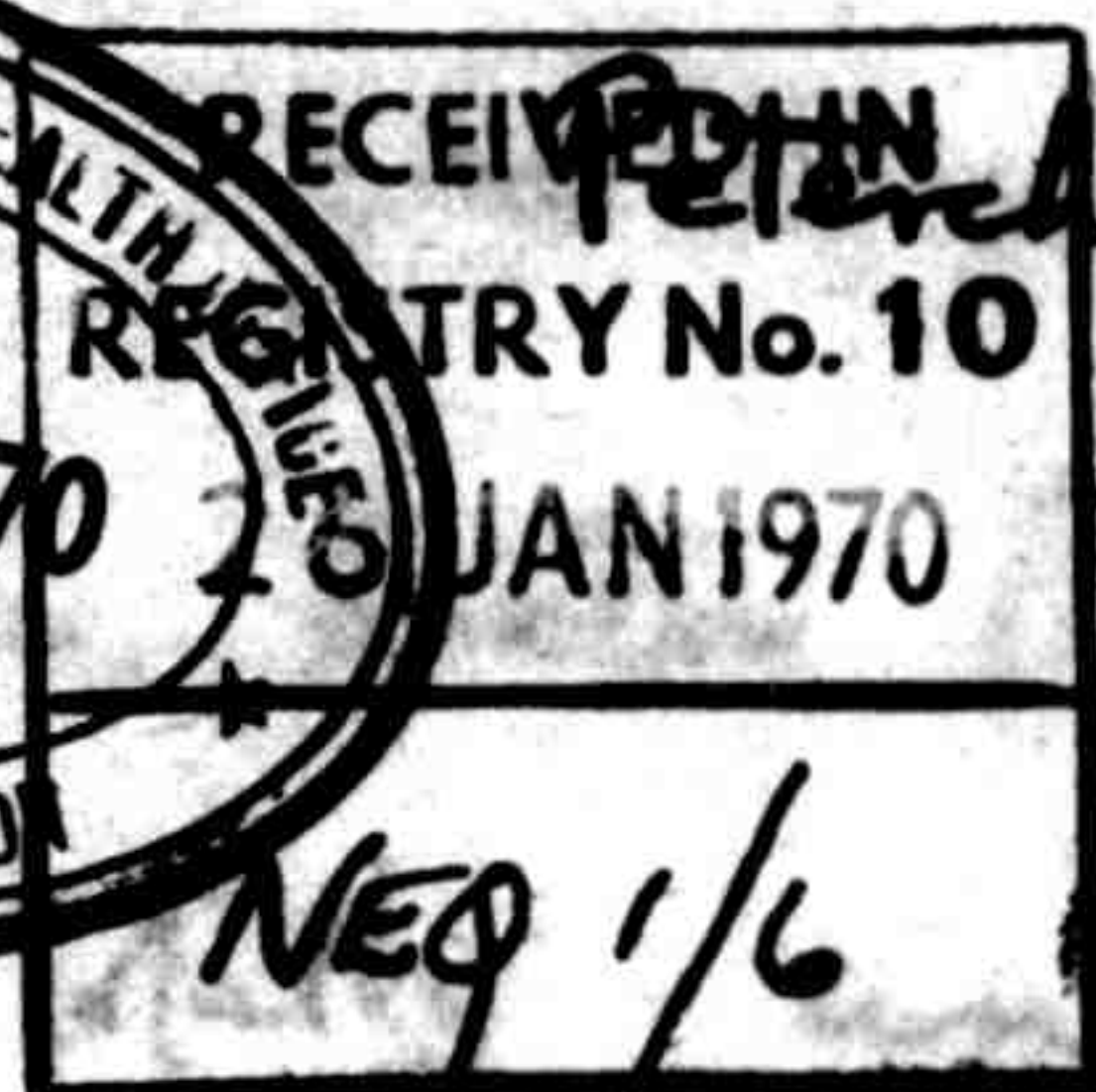
Mr. Stewart very much appreciates your anxiety about the fate of your sister but I am afraid that there is nothing that we can do to help. Your sister, together with those others accused by the Iraqis with complicity in the recent attempted coup is an Iraqi subject. We therefore have no grounds for raising this matter officially with the Iraqi Government. Any approach, even on humanitarian grounds, would be regarded by the Iraqis as interference in their internal affairs and could be harmful rather than helpful to your sister.

The same considerations also apply to an approach by us to Sheikh Zaid of Abu Dhabi, as suggested by you.

I am sorry this reply must seem so unhelpful, but there is unfortunately nothing we can do for your sister.

(Mrs. V. E. M. Hartles)
Private Secretary

Sayid Abbas Alkhersan,
Managing Director,
Sicom Ltd.



Peterchurch Vicarage, NE
Hereford

(14)

2am 22nd Jan '70

Right honourable and dear Foreign
Secretary,

Dr. Fatima Alsada (nee'
Alkhesan) is one of those
who were named on the Iraqi
Radio about an hour ago,
as an enemy of their
Government.

I know her very well,
she is a personal friend of
about 15 years standing.

(Signed J.C. & B.T. Davies)

She is a hard working
woman doctor (the first in Iraq),
and totally unpolitical. Even
when away from her country
— here in my Vicarage —
she does not say a word
against her Government.

I realise there is very
little you can do. But is
there anything we can do
to help her escape; or if they
have caught her, to make
their Government realise
that she is harmless to them?

Sincerely yours,
John C. de la T. Davies

(The Revd. J. C. de la T. Davies)

Baghdad Radio on "Imperialist Propaganda"

Baghdad home service 19.00 GMT 25.1.70

Excerpts from commentary:

Imperialist propaganda continues to lack any element of plausibility...

Those who follow what is being published in the British press and broadcast over London radio will only note the excessive concentration on depicting the revolution's measures in Iraq against the plotters as unprecedented terrorisation, blood-baths and the like. Those who control these media believe that such lies and slander are sufficient to win some kind of sympathy for the conspiratorial movements and cast dark shadows of doubt on the revolution's right to protect its people.

These media have forgotten that the world public, and the Arab public in particular, can believe anything except that the USA, its ally Britain and the Bonn Government - these governments - would denounce a regime actually based on terror. Who can believe that the USA, which drops thousands of tons of bombs every day on Vietnamese villages, would denounce a terrorist regime? Even if we overlooked the dark history of two centuries of British terrorism, we should still be unable to ignore what Britain is now doing in the steadfast Amirates of the Arabian Gulf. What about the governments which the US Central Intelligence has installed and which daily set themselves by treacherous force over the bodies of their victims in Africa, Asia and Latin America?

A logic which still considers world public opinion a string to be pulled at the whim of capitalist propaganda is a very stupid one. One proof of this is that the demonstrations of the people in Europe and the USA have not been directed against the just struggle of the liberation movements, including Iraq's struggle, but rather continue to increase against the thieves of the peoples' livelihood and the Pentagon shedders of blood and among the leaders of the British and West German monopolists.

Our confidence in the people's vigilance is therefore justified. We also do not fear, and never have feared, what the imperialist press, radios and their lackeys in Iran say.

Our masses in Iraq and throughout the Arab homeland realise that the campaign against Iraq is prompted purely by the oil interests at the instigation of exploiting elements and Zionism. These masses are aware of their role in repelling the imperialist onslaught. They will triumph against the propaganda campaigns as they triumphed against the remnant agents.

(1) To grant a general amnesty to the participants in the incidents in the North, military and civilians. (2) To exempt the members of the armed forces from responsibility for the equipment, weapons and ammunition in their trust and from all material or legal consequences resulting from that trust. (3) Responsible authorities shall reinstate those included in this Statement in their former jobs as soon as they report for duty. (Baghdad in Arabic 19.00 GMT 24.1.70)

Decision on cultural rights for Turkmen minority (Text of Revolution Command Council decision) Due to the 17th July revolution's belief that the way to increase the citizen's contribution to the country, to consolidate national unity, and to strengthen the struggling unity is through the enjoyment by citizens of their lawful rights; and due to the revolution's belief in the right of the Turkmen minority to enjoy cultural rights in their residence areas, the Revolution Command Council has decided the following at its 24th January session: (1) Turkmen will be taught throughout the elementary school phases. (2) Various subjects will be taught in Turkmen in all schools teaching the language. (3) A Turkmen studies directorate will be established at the Education Ministry. (4) Turkmen Men of Letters, poets and writers will be allowed to establish a union. They will be given assistance in publishing their writings. They will be given opportunities to increase their linguistic efficiency. The union will be attached to the Federation of Iraqi Men of Letters. (5) A directorate for Turkmen culture will be established and will be attached to the Culture and Information Ministry. (6) A weekly newspaper and a monthly magazine will be published in Turkmen. (7) Turkmen programmes will be increased on Kirkuk television. (Baghdad in Arabic 11.30 GMT 24.1.70)

Bakr's visit to Rashid Military Hospital President Bakr visited Rashid Military Hospital on 24th January to see three of those wounded during the foiling of the abortive reactionary plot. Saddam Husayn, Revolution Command Council Deputy Chairman and Deputy Secretary-General of the Socialist Arab Ba'th Party Regional Command, accompanied the President. (Baghdad in Arabic 15.00 GMT 24.1.70)

Radio announcement on recordings of plotters' meetings Baghdad radio announced at 18.15 GMT on 24th January that it was joining the Baghdad Armed Forces Programme in Arabic and Baghdad television service to broadcast more of the recordings which it said had been made secretly by Iraqi Intelligence at meetings of the plotters of the recent coup attempt. The names of the speakers in the recording were not given. The recording ended at 18.40 GMT.

N/E.
PTR.
P.W.S. 1/5

THE TIMES
26 JAN 1970

15

RECEIVED IN
REGISTRY No. 10
26 JAN 1970

Cutting dated 19

BAGHDAD EXECUTIONS

From the Ambassador of the Republic of Iraq

Sir,—Your leader today (The Baghdad Terror) calls for an immediate reply. Although it is not difficult for a far-away and, shall I say, unsympathetic observer, particularly when what is at stake is not his own country's security, to assume, as you did, a detached and indifferent posture. However, it does hurt us a lot to read your commentary which lacks facts and fairness.

The events of the last two days in Iraq should be looked at and commented upon against a background of a series of plots, conspiracies and subversive activities which were undertaken by imperialist, reactionary and oil-monopolist circles to topple the nationalist and socialist regime in Iraq, and thus separate it from the mainstream of Arab nationalism and liquidate in the process the Palestine question.

You referred in your article to the fact that the Iraqis regard themselves "in the vanguard of 'the revolution'". Any wonder that the Iranians, the Americans and the Israelis should join hands in their plot to bring down the Iraqi revolutionary regime! Indeed, special mention has been made in many a newspaper in Great Britain and elsewhere to the persistently hostile attitude of the Iranian Government to Iraq for some time now and on different fronts. The unilateral abrogation by Iran of the boundary treaty, the assistance to the rebels in the northern part of Iraq, the interference in its internal affairs and the oppressive measures against the millions of Arabs living in south Iran are but a few examples.

As to the attitude of the Iranians towards what you called "general Arab preoccupation with Israel", I do not think that "aloofness" is the right description of it. The events of the last few days implicate the Iranian Government in a much stronger manner. Only this morning another leading newspaper said that there was "little doubt of some kind of Iranian involvement in the plot". In that respect, your own query about Iran's involvement should not pass unnoticed. It is also common knowledge that the American intelligence networks have been active with their conspiratorial schemes in the Arab world.

Finally, I should like to take issue with your "expectation" of more plots in my country and ask whether it is right for a newspaper, and especially The Times, to indulge in such dangerous incitement and interference in the internal affairs of other countries.

My only hope is that plotters, conspirators and their allies have now taken the right lesson and would think more than once before getting involved in similar dangerous and treacherous activities. The Iraqi authorities will not hesitate to deal as effectively and as strongly with all traitors, plotters, spies and foreign intruders.

Yours sincerely,

KADHIM M. KHALAF, Ambassador, Embassy of the Republic of Iraq.

21 Queen's Gate, S.W.7, Jan. 23.

Reg & Pa.

"Alertness

Coup"

File

PMMA

26/1

26 JAN 1970

Cutting dated 19

RECEIVED IN
REGISTRY No. 10

26 JAN 1970

Reg sta

-Coup" file

+ Copy in Iran/Iran relations file.

MMA

261

Mr. Mahan

Iraq says Iran massing troops on southern border

BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

BEIRUT, Jan. 25.

IRAQ has accused Iran of concentrating a large number of troops along Iraq's Southern border.

The charge was made yesterday by the Iraqi Information Minister, Mr. Hamid Jebouri, in a speech delivered at the opening session in Cairo of an Arab Information Ministers' meeting.

The Minister said Iran had originally massed troops near Iraq's border after Teheran's unilateral abrogation in April last year of the 33-year-old agreement with Iraq on Shatt Al Arab. These concentrations were increased after a reported attempt last Tuesday in Baghdad to overthrow the Baathist regime was foiled, the Minister said.

Three more Iraqis were executed yesterday, bringing to 44 the number of military men and civilians shot by firing squad or hanged since last Wednesday. The special court set up to try alleged plotters announced that it had completed all cases before it and that it was suspending its hearings until fugitives, still at large in connection with the plot, had been caught.

Minister Jebouri urged the Arab States to stand by Iraq in its present sharp conflict with Iran, and said United States intelligence

had turned Iran into a centre for plots, not only against Iraq, but against all the Arab States. Baghdad had officially accused Iran of supplying "plotters" with arms and funds.

The Iraqi Government is also upset over what it regarded as hostile publicity against Iraq in the British Press and by the BBC. The U.K. Ambassador was yesterday summoned to the Foreign Ministry in Baghdad and told that if "the campaign by British news media against Iraq" continued, this would have serious repercussions on relations between the two countries.

Kurdish move

[Reuter reports from Teheran: Iran has lodged a strong protest with Iraq over the alleged ill-treatment of the Iranian Chargé d'Affairs in Baghdad, the Majlis (Lower House of Parliament) was told to-day. The Chargé, Mr. Majid Mehran, is said to have been stopped by Iraqi security guards who were alleged to have searched him and his car.]

Meanwhile, the Baathist regime has taken the first step in reaching an agreement with insurgents in Northern Iraq to end the Kurdish war.

A decree issued last night by the Revolution Command Council, the highest executive authority, declared an amnesty for all those who participated in Kurdish insurrection. This would include Kurds who had served in the Iraqi army and police force before joining insurgents under Mulla Mustafa Barzani.

The RCC decree also declared that the Government would abide by the agreement reached with the Kurds in June, 1966.

This agreement provided for giving the Kurds the right of self-government in areas in Northern Iraq where they form the majority.

DELEGATIONS IN PARIS

PARIS, Jan. 25.

Two Iraqi delegations, one led by Industry Minister Khaled Maddi el Hashimi, arrived in Paris over the week-end for talks which will include the possible establishment of a truck factory in Iraq by Saviem, heavy duty vehicle subsidiary of Renault.

Some observers said that the Iraqi visits might rekindle opposition claims that France may try to sell Iraq modern weapons to win new trade contracts.

UPI

THE BAGHDAD TERROR

The Baghdad authorities say that they have been dealing with five groups of plotters "so far". They seem to expect more, and nobody would be surprised if there are more. Since the present regime in Iraq consists basically of a small group, mainly officers, who took power by force and hold it by terror, conspiracies are inevitable. There is no other way of changing a regime which is incompetent and blood-thirsty. The tally of executions over the past few days is forty, shot and hanged. This is high even by Iraq standards, and these are worse than in almost any other country in the world. So the revolution eats its children, and a great many other unfortunates as well.

What is new in the latest wave of terror is that Iran now stands accused equally with the United States—or even more—as the provoker of plots. Five Iranian diplomats in Baghdad have been summarily expelled, and all Iranian consulates in Iraq have been closed down. These are the

strongest measures that any government in Baghdad has taken against Iran for a very long time. Not that hostility to Iran is anything new.

There are many sources of friction—navigation in the Shatt al-Arab; oil rights in the Persian Gulf; the Kurds, who are in more or less continuous revolt against the Iraq Government and who straddle the frontier between the two countries; the position of Arabs in south Iran and of Iranians in central Iraq. On top of this there is a basic ideological feud; the Iraqis regarding themselves in the vanguard of "the revolution" (a position which is supposed to justify any measures against anyone), and the Iranians holding themselves aloof from the general Arab preoccupation with Israel. Which of these motives is behind the present excitement—or whether it is all of them, or whether, indeed, Iran had anything to do with the plot—there is no means of telling. All that is certain is that once again the men in Baghdad have shown themselves to be men of blood.

Near Eastern Department,

16

27 January, 1970

6 (NEQ.1/6)

I have been asked to reply to your letter of 22 January to the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary about Dr. Fatima Alsada.

I very much appreciate your anxiety about Dr. Alsada but I am afraid that there is nothing that we can do to help. Dr. Alsada, together with those others accused by the Iraqis with complicity in last week's attempted coup is an Iraqi subject. We therefore have no grounds for raising this matter officially with the Iraqi Government. Any approach such as you suggest in the last sentence in your letter - even one on humanitarian grounds - would be regarded by the Iraqis as interference in their internal affairs and would be harmful rather than helpful to Dr. Alsada.

(P.R.M.Hinchcliffe)

The Reverend J. C. de la T. Davies,
Peterchurch Vicarage,
Hereford,
Hereford shire.

CONFIDENTIAL

TOP COPY (17)

CYPHER/CAT A

PRIORITY FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE
TELEGRAM NUMBER 86

RECEIVED IN
REGISTRY No. 10
20 JAN 1970
NEP 1/6

TO BAGHDAD
26 JANUARY 1970
(H)

CONFIDENTIAL.

ADDRESSED TO BAGHDAD TELEGRAM NO 86 OF 26 JANUARY REPEATED FOR INFORMATION TO TEHRAN, CAIRO, AMMAN, BEIRUT, BAHRAIN RESIDENCY, KUWAIT, WASHINGTON.

ATTEMPTED COUP. BRITISH PRESS COVERAGE.

THE IRAQI AMBASSADOR ACTING ON INSTRUCTION CALLED ON HAYMAN TODAY TO COMPLAIN IN SIMILAR TERMS AS DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPH 1 OF YOUR TELEGRAM NO 69 ABOUT THE HOSTILE TONE OF THE BRITISH INFORMATION MEDIA IN GENERAL AND OF THE TIMES SECOND LEADER OF 23 JANUARY IN PARTICULAR (KHALLAF IS THE AUTHOR OF A LETTER ON THIS TOPIC IN TODAY'S TIMES).

2. HAYMAN REMINDED KHALLAF OF THE TRADITIONAL FREEDOM FROM GOVERNMENT CONTROL ENJOYED BY THE BRITISH PRESS AND DREW THE AMBASSADOR'S ATTENTION TO THE ABUSE WE HAVE TO ENDURE FROM THE IRAQI RADIO AND PRESS.

3. IN THE COURSE OF A MORE GENERAL CONVERSATION HAYMAN ASKED KHALLAF IF THERE WAS ANYTHING WE COULD DO TO IMPROVE ANGLO/IRAQI RELATIONS. THE AMBASSADOR REPLIED QUOTING WHAT HE SAID WERE VIEWS OF THE IRAQI CHIEF OF STAFF AND OF THE MINISTER OF AGRARIAN REFORM (BOTH IN LONDON ON PRIVATE VISITS) QUOTE PAY UP THE 60 OR 70 MILLION OWED BY THE IPC AND ALL WILL BE MILK AND HONEY UNQUOTE. HAYMAN GAVE AN APPROPRIATE REPLY TO THAT.

STEWART

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ARAB. D.
P.U.S.D.
I.R.D.
NEWS D.
OIL. D.

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18

"Voice of Fatah" programmes 21.1.70 The "Voice of Fatah" programme at 18.30 GMT on 21st January praised the bravery of the Arabs and reviewed previous attacks on the potash plant. The programme in Hebrew at 19.20 GMT said that the Safi battle showed that the Arabs would never be liquidated.

The revolutionary logic which the Revolution Command has applied on the domestic and foreign level; the revolution's drive against all the backwardness and exploitation in our society; its contribution to the national battle in Palestine manifested in unlimited support and its attitude like a mountain against the plots to liquidate the Palestine question and isolate fida'i action from the stream of the progressive Arab revolution; and its destruction of all the imperialist political plans to benefit the Zionist entity - all this was bound to make the imperialist agents, lackeys and spies move to stop the sweeping wave of the revolution. This revolution had destroyed in a short time all the dreams of imperialism and its Zionist base and crushed the pillars of inhumane class exploitation and domination in the region.

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The plots against the July revolution are not new. The only new thing in them is that they provide ample proof of the failure and despair of the counter-revolutionary plotters. When imperialism and the Zionist gangs failed to make a flagrant aggression against the revolution from outside the region, imperialism pushed its agents inside in a desperate attempt to strike the revolution and take Iraq back to the era of reaction and alliance with the Arab people's enemy and also to enable the plans to liquidate the Palestine question to be peacefully and safely carried out.

The burying of the reactionary plot has closed all doors to fulfilment of the dreams of the masters of world imperialism and their lackeys, who did not learn a lesson from the black fate which befell the spies and have continued to raise their rotten heads every now and then in the hope of finding an opportunity to strike the national socialist gains of the masses.

The joint plan and work of imperialism, Zionism and the reactionary remnants in this region against our valiant revolution, have been completely exposed. The merciless tearing out of the last roots of reaction in the region is the first step towards neutralising all the elements of the counter-revolutionary movement, which has been daily increasing its activities against our masses and progressive revolution and which is the imperialist circles' most dangerous weapon to bring down the progressive regimes hostile to the imperialist monopolist interests and aggressive schemes.

We call our fighting masses to firmer struggle against reaction, imperialism and Zionism. We call on the leaders of the nationalist socialist revolution to deal crushing blows on the counter-revolutionary remnants. Victory goes only to the steadfast who fight to protect the people's revolution.

12.10 GMT (Messages of support to the Revolution Command Council denouncing the abortive plot, including messages from the Culture and Information Minister, Hamid al-Juburi; the Second Division Commander; and the Air Force Commander. A message from the Republican Guard Command demanded "the execution of traitors and imperialist agents". Other messages were sent by the Republican Guard tank battalion; the Baghdad air base; the Higher Education Minister and various governors and officials.)

13.52 GMT (Abstract of Special Court verdict) Brig. Muhammad Rashid Muhsin al-Janabi retd., Col. Salih Mahdi as-Samarra'i retd., Lt. Rafi Daraj, Lt. Nash'at Askar and ex-Warrant Officer Sufug Raysan are sentenced to death by firing squad.

14.00 GMT (Text of Special Court announcement) At 16.30 today the following criminals were executed by firing squad: Brig. Muhammad Rashid Muhsin al-Janabi retd., Col. Salih Mahdi as-Samarra'i retd., Lt. Rafi Daraj, Lt. Nash'at Askar and ex-Warrant Officer Sufug Raysan. Thus the first group of these plotters and traitors received their just punishment for plotting against this homeland and against the Iraqi people and for selling themselves to foreigners to destroy the great achievements of the 17th July revolution - the genuine Ba'th revolution - and to do away with the gains achieved by all of the people, peasants, workers and revolutionary soldiers. They sought to turn Iraq back to pre-14th July - to the era of feudalism, reaction and exploitation - to prevent Iraq from fulfilling its immortal mission to liberate Palestine and the other occupied Arab territory and to unify Arab countries. A man's behaviour reflects his character. We did not wrong them; they wronged themselves.

14.48 GMT (Abstract) The Special Court is still in session trying another group of plotters.

15.00 GMT (Text) The funeral of two martyrs of our valiant armed forces who fell yesterday defending the honour of our homeland and the aims of the revolution of our great people will take place at noon tomorrow. We call on all popular organisations and trade unions and all sons of the people to join in the funeral procession of the martyrs.

17.12 GMT (Abstract of Special Court sentence) Col. Fadil Mustafa Ahmad, Col. Jabir Hasan Haddad retd., Col. Salman Dawud Abd as-Salam ad-Dardazali retd., Police Lt-Col. Abbas Jawad as-Salamiretd., Lt. Adnan Husayn, Staff Sgt. Ali Salih Khudayyir ash-Sharshah and Dr. Nizam ad-Din Arif are sentenced to death. The military will be executed by firing squad and the civilians will be hanged.

17.28 GMT (Message to President Bakr, the Revolution Command Council and the Ba'th Party Regional Command from the Kurdistan Democratic Party, signed by Umar Mustafa of the Party's Politburo, denouncing the plot and proclaiming support for the regime.)

[Note: The Iraqi News Agency reported at 17.32 GMT that the second group of those sentenced to death had been executed.]

19.06 GMT (Report that President Bakr confirmed the death sentences on the two groups of plotters numbering 12 military and civilians as named above.)

19.10 GMT (Abstract of Special Court sentences) In absentia: Maj. Gen. Abd al-Ghani ar-Rawi retd. to be executed by firing squad; Shamil Muhammad al-Hasan to be executed by hanging.

19.20 GMT (Text of Special Court announcement) Death sentences were carried out at 19.30 on 21st January 1970 on the criminals Col. Fadil Mustafa Ahmad, Col. Jabir Hasan Haddad retd., Col. Salman Dawud Abd as-Salam ad-Dardazali retd., Police Lt-Col. Abbas Jawad as-Salamiretd., Lt. Adnan Husayn, Staff Sgt. Ali Salih Khudayyir ash-Sharshah and Dr. Nizam ad-Din Arif. These men sold themselves to foreigners and competed to receive evil money from foreigners for undermining the national regime in Iraq, destroying the gains the people achieved by their blood and sweat, spreading anarchy and confusion among the people, pushing Iraq into the imperialist orbit, bringing about a reactionary agent regime to ease pressure on Israel, preventing the valiant Iraqi Army from performing its national patriotic duty to free the usurped land and build up the greater homeland and isolating Iraq from its fraternal liberated Arab States.

It was for this reason that, from its very first day, the Ba'th Revolution decided to destroy all those who were tempted to co-operate with foreigners and oppose the will of the people, and to do away with espionage and spying in Iraq.

The imperialist States have been shocked by Iraq's great revolution in agriculture and oil and mineral policies, Iraq's clear attitude on the Palestine question and the Iraqi official statement on the just and democratic solution of the Kurdish problem and their work with the Kurds to build this homeland. Thus the imperialists sent their agents and spies to plot against the revolution and the regime. But the vigilance of the people and the Army prevented the implementation of their plot.

Let the imperialists and those riding on their chariot know that all the people with all their resources are watching their movements. He who stands in the way of the people and their aspirations will sooner or later receive his just punishment.

20.15 GMT (Abstract of Special Court sentences) Radi Rakan, execution by hanging; Police Brig. Shukri Mahmud Salih retd. and Police Lt. Khazal Sabri, execution by firing squad; Salman Mahdi at-Tamimi, execution by hanging; the soldier Salih Jabr, 10 years' imprisonment. The accused Lt. Ali Abd Khas, Lt. Zaydan Khalaf and Lt. Sakit Shihab Muhammad were found not guilty.

20.18 GMT (Abstract of Special Court announcement) Death sentences were carried out at 22.45 today on Radi Rakan, Police Brig. Shukri Mahmud Salih retd., Police Lt. Khazal Sabri retd., and Salman Maldi at-Tamimi.

21.25 GMT (Text of statement by "a responsible source" to the Iraqi News Agency) After Imperialism failed to carry out its attempt to sabotage the 17th July revolution and following the revolution's decisive victory in the 30th July upsurge, imperialist and reactionary circles began planning to overthrow the progressive revolutionary regime in Iraq. The victory of this regime was a decisive start for the rising revolutionary tide in the area after a series of past failures.

American imperialism and the CIA undertook to plot against the regime by depending on the reactionary Government in Iran and co-operating with Zionism, the agents of oil monopolies, and elements riding on the chariot of British imperialism.

The threads of the sinister plot, which was revealed to the people by the Revolution Command Council statement, began about six months after the revolution. From the start, the media responsible for the safety and security of the revolution succeeded in detecting the plotters' activities and decided to infiltrate into their ranks.

The plotters consisted of a group of rancorous reactionaries who opposed every progressive revolutionary change. They are known for their close relations with imperialist circles and are elements who had been thrown out by the 14th July revolution. Some of them had participated in numerous suspect plotting attempts staged in the country since the July 1958 revolution.

American imperialism deployed all its intelligence machinery and all the machinery of Iran to help the plotters with all their needs. A Third Secretary of the Iranian Embassy in Baghdad, Dawud Tahir, was asked to co-ordinate between the plotters, the Shah's Government, and the American CIA.

The first contact between the plotters and the Iranian Embassy Secretary, Dawud Tahir, took place in Baghdad on 15th April 1969. On 28th October 1969 some of the plotters met the Iranian Intelligence Chief Dr. (?Firzayn). The meeting took place in Kuwait in the presence of the Iranian Ambassador in Kuwait and an Embassy official named Shaykh al-Islam.

During this meeting, Dr. (?Firzayn) conveyed to the plotters the Shah's Government's readiness to place all its resources at their disposal. He also urged speeding up the work and told them the USA was very anxious that the revolutionary regime in Iraq should be quickly destroyed. The plotters and the Iranian Intelligence Chief discussed the attitude which the coup government should adopt toward the Palestine question and the country's progressive revolutionary gains. The Iranian Intelligence Chief told them that the coup government should quickly implement the American plan to liquidate the Palestine question and thus win the full support of the West.

Dr. (?Firzayn) also told them the USA would use all its resources to serve their plot to overthrow the revolutionary regime in Iraq.

It was agreed at the meeting that Iran would supply the plotting clique with arms and money through the Iraqi-Iranian borders from the Iranian Mehran district area. On 15th November 1969 the Iranian Government furnished the plotters with 1,000 machine-guns and 250,000 rounds. The arms were transported from the Iranian Mehran district to Baghdad. The second consignment of arms was transported from the Iranian borders to Baghdad on 15th December 1969. It consisted of 2,000 machine-guns and 400,000 rounds. Thus the total arms received by the plotters amounted to 3,000 machine-guns and 650,000 rounds. The arms were deployed in various parts of Baghdad.

Two American officers employed by the CIA witnessed the transporting of the two arms consignments from the Iranian borders. The Iranian Embassy Secretary, Dawud Tahir, gave the plotters 10,000 dinars on 25th December 1969.

On 11th January 1970 the Iranian Embassy Secretary, Dawud Tahir, delivered 1,000 dinars to an officer [at 21.35 GMT the radio said 50,000 dinars]. This noble brave officer had been asked by the Revolution Command to infiltrate the ranks of the plotters to unmask their conspiracy. The Iranian Embassy also delivered many other sums of money to the plotters who sold their homeland and honour to the foreigners.

Through its Secretary, Dawud Tahir, the Iranian Embassy in Baghdad furnished the plotters with a wireless set to be used in contacting Iran. The 20-kw. set was delivered on 13th January 1970.

On 17th January 1970 another smaller wireless set was delivered to the plotters to be used as a reserve.

The plotting clique depended on the criminal conspirator, Abd al-Ghani ar-Rawi, who had been living under the aegis of the agent regime in Iran for a few months, and on a number of retired officers with grudges against the revolution and the national progressive line.

The plotters used some houses in Baghdad to establish contact with Iranian Embassy officials and discuss the plotting designs with them. One of the houses belonged to Dr. Hasan al-Khattat and his wife, Sadiyah Salih Jabr at al-Mansur. Another house belonged to Dr. Fatimah al-Kharsan at Karradah ash-Sharqiyah. The two houses were used to exchange letters between the Iranian Embassy and the plotters.

The plotters set up a special group to assassinate senior Party and State officials as part of the plot. All members of this body have been arrested.

The machinery responsible for the security and safety of the revolution had been aware of the details of the plot from the start. Its men penetrated the plotters' machinery. The machinery responsible for the security and safety of the revolution possesses complete recordings of most of the meetings and interviews that took place. These recordings will be broadcast for the people to hear.

The plotters chose the 17th as the date to execute their plot, but it was decided later to delay this until the night of 20th-21st January. The plot planned to bring together the retired military officers and then attack and take control of the tank battalion and some units in Baghdad.

The Revolution Command was careful to prevent any shedding of blood. Thus the vigilant revolution media arrested all the plotters throughout Iraq simultaneously during the early moments of the execution of the plot.

21.59 GMT (Abstract of Special Court sentences) Col. Ala ad-Din Amin al-Hishmah, Maj. Sattar Abd al-Jabbar al-Jubudi retd., Sgt. Fakhir Hasan Husayn, Capt. Majid Tardi and Lt. Anwar Muhammad Husayn al-Jumayli are sentenced to death by firing squad. Hasan Husayn al-Khattat is sentenced to death by hanging. The accused Lt. Wathban Ahmad Turki and Lt-Col. Hamid Munir retd., are acquitted.

22.04 GMT (Abstract of announcement) The following were executed at 00.45 on 22nd January: Col. Ala ad-Din Amin al-Hishmah, Maj. Sattar Abd al-Jabbar al-Jubudi retd., Sgt. Fakhir Hasan Husayn, Capt. Majid Tardi, Lt. Anwar Muhammad Husayn al-Jumayli and Hasan Husayn al-Khattat.

The Attempted Coup in Iraq: Baghdad Broadcasts of 22nd January

Baghdad home service in Arabic 04.10-11.48 GMT 22.1.70

04.10 GMT (Text of announcement) The Iraqi Government has requested the Iranian Ambassador in Baghdad and four other diplomats of the Iranian Embassy to leave the country within 24 hours. It has also decided to close all Iranian Consulates and to ask their staff to leave within 24 hours.

The Iraqi News Agency has learned that the Foreign Ministry at 02.45 today called the Embassy's First Secretary, (?Mahmud Sabahi), and informed him that it has become evident to the Iraqi authorities that the Ambassador, Dr. Ezatollah Ameli; the Iranian Military Attache, Col. Gholam Hosein Alaee; the Assistant Military Attache Maj. Ali Asghar Sadeqian; the Press Attache Abdol Hosein Golsharifi; and the Embassy's Third Secretary, Dawud Tahir, have carried out activities inconsistent with their diplomatic activities. They have interfered in the domestic affairs of the Iraqi Republic in a manner endangering the country's security and safety.

The Foreign Ministry informed the Iranian Embassy First Secretary of its strong protest against these activities inconsistent with diplomatic practice and international treaties and agreements. The Iraqi Republic Government regards the above-named persons as personae non gratae. It has requested their departure from the country within 24 hours. The Ministry also informed him of the Government's decision to close the Iranian Consulates in Baghdad, Karbala and Basra. It has requested the departure of all these Consulate officials within 24 hours.

The agency has also learned that the Foreign Ministry handed the Iranian Secretary a note in this connection.

05.45 GMT (Text of press review report) New secrets on the dirty reactionary plot. 'Ath-Thawrah' has learnt that the plotters agreed with the Iranian authorities on a specific code and a password to be used in communications, particularly over the wireless set they received from Dawud Tahir, the Iranian Embassy official. The paper has also learnt that the Iranian authorities promised the plotting clique to place an Iranian air base at their disposal if needed to tighten their control on the country. After the arrest of the plotters the revolutionary departments which foiled the plot called Tehran on the same wireless set and used the code agreed on, saying: We were forced to delay at the last moment for private reasons. Matters are reassuring. We shall let you know about new developments.

The criminals, sentenced by the Special Court to death by firing squad, have been executed with the same weapons they received from the Iranian authorities to carry out the foul plot aimed at drowning the country in a sea of blood and at usurping all the national and progressive gains of the people. 'Ath-Thawrah' has also learnt that the plotters' first communique was drafted in Tehran and sent to the plotters to be broadcast by them when the plot succeeded.

06.30 GMT (Excerpt from announcement) The execution of the following criminals took place at 03.00 today: Rashid Muslih, Midhat al-Haj Sirri, Sa'd Shakir Fahmi, Abdullah Muhammad al-Khayyat, Zaki Abd al-Wahhab, Albert Lulu [given as Nunu by the Iraqi News Agency at 09.30 GMT] and Muhammad Muta al-Husami.

07.00 GMT (Text) The Special Court met a dawn today to continue the trial of other groups of plotters against the people, the revolution and the homeland. It will issue other decisions.

08.55 GMT (Live broadcast on the funeral procession of two martyrs "who sacrificed their lives for the sake of our precious and dear homeland and who faced the bullets of treason and agents". The crowds was heard shouting: "Iran, Iran, rebel so the Shah may suffer the fate of Nuri [as-Sa'id].")

10.03 GMT (Abstract of Special Court sentences) Col. Muhammad Abbas Mazlum, Col. Isma'il Najm retd., Capt. Wahhab Dawud al-Hiti, Capt. Riyad Muhammad [names indistinct], Maj. Ahmad Abdullah and Lt. Isam Mahdi are sentenced to death by firing squad. Aziz Ali (?ash-Sha'b) is sentenced to death by hanging. (?Ra's Arafah Wahdah), Faysal Qitan, the lawyer Abd al-Muhsin Abd al-Karim ad-Duri and Ahmad Karim Abdullah are sentenced to imprisonment for life with hard labour. Lt-Col. Dawud Adil [name indistinct] is sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment and is dismissed from the army. Lt. Mishal (?Khulq) ar-Rashid, Capt. Rafi Nazim al-Hammani retd., Lt-Col. Abdullah Ahmad Salih, Lt-Col. Muhammad Wafi retd., Col. Khidr Hammudi retd., and Capt. Akram Amin are acquitted.

10.50 GMT (Text of speech by President Bakr to the crowd outside the Presidential Palace, broadcast live) Masses of our great people, once again your immortal revolution affirms that it is stronger than plots, even if these plots are backed by all the experience of reaction and imperialism. Once again our great people affirm their resolve and determination to back their progressive revolution and to eliminate all the obstacles in its way.

Your great revolution, the 17th July revolution, which crowns years of struggle and embodies your hopes and aspirations for building a better future, and which has forged ahead despite hardships, pains and plots; this revolution has not taken place merely to fall into the laps of the stupid traitorous reaction. The revolution is here to stay. It will stay so long as you are its substance and objective. It will proceed on its revolutionary path quite oblivious to the plots, the traitors and the spies who are falling.

Masses of our great people, on the night of 20th January, traitors and agents - men who have sold their conscience to imperialism and reaction - tried to plot against your revolution; the revolution which bears the torch lighting the way for the struggling peoples in the region in their just struggle against imperialism, reaction and Zionism. Their aim was to do away with our people's progressive gains and enslave and subjugate Iraq. Their plans fizzled out as did the plans of their predecessors. They were punished for the crimes they committed against themselves and their homeland.

It is no coincidence that this clique has chosen the very day on which the spies were executed last year to implement its dirty operation. This is as if the clique wanted to affirm its subservience and association with imperialism and Zionism.

Brave people, the 17th July revolution has given its heart to all the citizens. It will continue to do so because it knows who are on the people's side and who are on the enemy's side. But some, blinded by hatred and worldly temptations, still try to exploit the revolution's openheartedness. And so, they are carrying out their dirty plans against it, colluding with imperialism and its stooges in the region. They are doing this despite the Revolution Command Council's call for liberation.

Let them know that the path of treason and plotting will lead them to execution because the revolution's machinery, alert to the country's safety and security, is lying in wait for them. Their attempts will fail miserably and their necks will be the price which they will pay. Let their masters know that the revolution is proceeding on its path and is stronger and more determined. Nothing will turn it back.

Masses of our great people, it is our duty to honour our martyrs whose funeral takes place today. These men fell in the most honourable battlefield in defence of this country's sanctity, freedom, dignity and revolution.

Once again the Revolution Command Council pledges to the Iraqi people that it will continue on its path. It will not lag behind or hesitate. Let us march ahead towards more victory. Peace be with you.

11.48 GMT (Abstract of Special Court announcement) The following were executed at 13.00: Col. Muhammad Abbas Mazlum, Col. Isma'il Najm retd., Capt. Wahhab Dawud al-Hiti, Capt. Riyadh Muhammad al-Mufti, Maj. Ahmad Abdullah, Lt. Isam Mahdi and Aziz Ali as-Sa'd.

Arab Radio Comment 21.1.70

IRAQ 11.45 GMT: The attempted coup of 20th-21st January (see above). **19.00 GMT:** Zionist-imperialist policy of continuous plotting with reference to failure of latest plot.

JORDAN 19.00 GMT: The Israeli Ghawr as-Safi operation (see above).

LEBANON 18.00 GMT: Israeli raids against fida'iyyin aimed at breaking Arab steadfastness.

LIBYA 13.00 GMT: The forthcoming talks on Libyan oil prices.

MOROCCO 20.30 GMT: The conference of Arab Education Ministers.

SYRIA 12.15 GMT (repeated 19.15 GMT): US-Zionist "plot" in southern Lebanon and consequent intensification of Arab resistance.

UAR 12.30 GMT: Abd al-Fattah Hilal on Israeli Air Force role in increased Israeli psychological warfare campaign. 18.30 GMT ("We and the World"): "Failure" of Israeli psychological warfare and propaganda campaigns.

"Voice of the Arabs" (Cairo) 11.30 GMT: Abd al-Fattah al-Adawi on Israeli attack on Jordan and Arabs' determination to stand their ground. 14.15 GMT ("Palestine Service"): Samir Abd at-Tawwab on effectiveness of fida'i action. 15.15 GMT ("People in Sinai"): Warning against the enemy's psychological warfare campaign. 16.20 GMT ("Conversation with a Listener"): Need to oppose the enemy's attempts to exploit resources in occupied territories. 17.00 GMT ("Arabian Peninsula"): Muhammad ad-Dali on US support to Israel. 18.00 GMT: Muhammad Abu al-Futuh on psychological aims of Israeli raids on the UAR.

Reports in Brief

Mahmud Riyad's statement to National Assembly committees (Excerpts) The Foreign Minister Mahmud Riyad this morning [21.1.70] addressed the National Assembly Foreign Relations and Arab Affairs Committees and discussed Middle East political developments and the recent international talks on the Middle East crisis. He reviewed the results of the Rabat summit conference and the Tripoli meetings. Riyad said Israel was persisting in its expansionist policy and was insisting on keeping the occupied Arab territories, disregarding the Palestinian people's rights... The Foreign Minister reviewed the US plans for a Middle East settlement and said those plans were completely in favour of Israel. (Cairo in Arabic 12.30 GMT 21.1.70)

Kamal Junblatt on Tripoli incident (Excerpt) The Minister of the Interior Kamal Junblatt said that the person who threw the bomb at the security force vehicle in Tripoli had been arrested. He said the Palestinians in charge of Nahr al-Barid camp had handed the culprit over to the security authorities after he had taken refuge in the camp. Junblatt added that every action should be based on a studied plan, which was what we are doing now in acts disturbing security. Answering a question, he said: We have taken suitable security measures and further measures will be taken. We shall soon begin a security month... (Beirut in Arabic 18.00 GMT 21.1.70)

Lebanese-Syrian talks Talks between Syria and Lebanon began on 21st January in Beirut on the Orontes River. A technical committee has been formed to study the technical points and report to the two delegations. (Beirut in Arabic 18.00 GMT 21.1.70)

S Yemeni volunteers for PFLP The second group of the first batch of Southern Yemen youth volunteers left Aden on 20th January to join the ranks of fighters in the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine. (Aden in Arabic 15.00 GMT 21.1.70)

TMD 00.81 (above) 18.00 GMT: The attempted coup of 18th January (see above) 18.00 GMT: The attempted coup of 18th January (see above) 18.00 GMT: The attempted coup of 18th January (see above)

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29/1 (19)

Mr. Peck

The Coup in Iraq and the B.B.C.

Baghdad telegram No.69 records a complaint from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs about the comments of the BBC Arabic Service and "The Times" regarding the attempted coup and the trials in Baghdad.

2. Mr. Hill had already spoken to the Director of the Arabic Service on Friday last, passing on the gist of a warning telegram (Baghdad No.65) which had suggested that editors and the BBC should be wary of ridiculing the coup attempt. The BBC told him that they had already had some internal controversy about this apropos a talk which had already been broadcast.

3. We spoke to the Arabic Service again this morning rehearsing the relevant parts of telegram No.69. The BBC believe they have already put right the error of their ways but will have another look at the specific broadcasts referred to. A copy of the telegram has been passed to them.

4. Near Eastern Department have telegraphed to Baghdad over the weekend telling them the line which News Department is taking, namely that the coup is an internal matter, but going on to brief trusted correspondents, on a confidential basis, with the guidance supplied by H.M. Embassy. The Iraqi Ambassador is calling today, presumably to register the same complaint. He has already written to "The Times" and his letter is published this morning (cutting attached). Near Eastern Department (at desk level) are inclined to let things rest at this for the moment.

[Signature]

(B. R. Curson)
26 January, 1970

[Handwritten initials]

[Handwritten initials]
27.1.

CONFIDENTIAL

From: "The Times" of Monday, 26 January, 1970.

BAGHDAD EXECUTIONS

From the Ambassador of the Republic of Iraq

Sir,—Your leader today (The Baghdad Terror) calls for an immediate reply. Although it is not difficult for a far-away and, shall I say, unsympathetic observer, particularly when what is at stake is not his own country's security, to assume, as you did, a detached and indifferent posture. However, it does hurt us a lot to read your commentary which lacks facts and fairness.

The events of the last two days in Iraq should be looked at and commented upon against a background of a series of plots, conspiracies and subversive activities which were undertaken by imperialist, reactionary and oil-monopolist circles to topple the nationalist and socialist regime in Iraq, and thus separate it from the mainstream of Arab nationalism and liquidate in the process the Palestine question.

You referred in your article to the fact that the Iraqis regard themselves "in the vanguard of 'the revolution'". Any wonder that the Iranians, the Americans and the Israelis should join hands in their plot to bring down the Iraqi revolutionary regime! Indeed, special mention has been made in many a newspaper in Great Britain and elsewhere to the persistently hostile attitude of the Iranian Government to Iraq for some time now and on different fronts. The unilateral abrogation by Iran of the boundary treaty, the assistance to the rebels in the northern part of Iraq, the interference in its internal affairs and the oppressive measures against the millions of Arabs living in south Iran are but a few examples.

As to the attitude of the Iranians towards what you called "general Arab preoccupation with Israel", I do not think that "aloofness" is the right description of it. The events of the last few days implicate the Iranian Government in a much stronger manner. Only this morning another leading newspaper said that there was "little doubt of some kind of Iranian involvement in the plot". In that respect, your own query about Iran's involvement should not pass unnoticed. It is also common knowledge that the American intelligence networks have been active with their conspiratorial schemes in the Arab world.

Finally, I should like to take issue with your "expectation" of more plots in my country and ask whether it is right for a newspaper, and especially The Times, to indulge in such dangerous incitement and interference in the internal affairs of other countries.

My only hope is that plotters, conspirators and their allies have now taken the right lesson and would think more than once before getting involved in similar dangerous and treacherous activities. The Iraqi authorities will not hesitate to deal as effectively and as strongly with all traitors, plotters, spies and foreign intruders.

Yours sincerely,

KADHIM M. KHALAF, Ambassador,
Embassy of the Republic
of Iraq.

21 Queen's Gate, S.W.7, Jan. 23.

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by any specific fictions) on the oil monopolies and British imperialism. Subsequently direct responsibility has been placed on the Iranians, and the accounts of the conspiracy have contained substantial evidence of Iranian backing. The propaganda truce with Iran is ended. Our assessment is that an attempted coup definitely took place, that from an early stage the plotters' organisation was heavily infiltrated by the Iraqi security authorities, that the Iranians were in it up to their necks and that the Iraqis had no difficulty in suppressing it at a time of their choosing.

5. The timing of the coup is however of interest. This Ba'athi government has shown over recent months a disposition to come to terms (if they can) with the Barzani Kurds and there have been signs that agreement between the two sides was more likely than at any stage since the departure of Bazzaz. It is commonplace to talk of the Iranians' dislike for any possible rapprochement between the Kurds and an Iraqi government, and it seems probable that the Iranians' immediate aim in mounting the coup at this time was to forestall any such agreement. This does not mean that they originally entered the conspiracy for this purpose, as by Iraqi accounts (which we believe in broad terms) the conspiracy dates from well before the talks with the Kurds and indeed had its origins at the time of the trouble with Iran over the Shatt al Arab. It is notable that the Iraqis have not sought to establish the existence of any link between the conspirators and the Kurds. This suggests to me a desire to maintain progress in their negotiations with the Kurds.

6. A complicating factor has been the decision to execute at the same time the group headed by Rashid Muslih and Madhat al Haj Sirri, originally sentenced to death in November 1969 on charges of spying for the C.I.A. In spite of the two men's confessions on television, the Ba'athists have seemed reluctant to risk executing them, and there were indeed strong rumours that their sentences had been commuted. It now seems possible that the authorities deliberately held them over until such time as this coup took place when their execution amid the general bloodbath would receive less attention. Alternatively they may have calculated that in the average Iraqi mind their simultaneous execution might give some substance to the flimsy allegations of C.I.A. complicity in the present coup. Local rumours suggest that the government may do the same with other potential enemies and organise a grand purge, but at the time of writing it seems likely that, with the exception of the Rashid Muslih group, those who have been summarily tried and sentenced (a list is enclosed) were indeed involved in the abortive coup. Other prominent opponents of the Ba'ath already in prison include Abdul Aziz al Uqaili, Faisal al Ansari, Tahir Yahya and Abdul Rahman Bazzaz. The official account has not attempted to implicate them. In the case of Bazzaz it is interesting to note that the Kurds are believed to have been campaigning for his release and any action against him could have a serious effect on the talks with the Kurds.

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7. What then is going to be the result of this coup which failed?
said/ The Ambassador in his telegram no. 657 that the ease with which it was suppressed is likely if anything to increase the self-confidence of the régime. Yet it means that relations with Iran have taken a sharp turn for the worse, which need not necessarily have happened if the plot had been nipped earlier. So we must assume that the government is prepared for a virtual breach of relations with Iran. The propaganda war will undoubtedly start again - and indeed has in the Baghdad papers. The Shatt al Arab will again become a focus of tension. The Ba'ath must be prepared for Iran to step up its aid and encouragement to the Kurds. And this is when it becomes interesting to note that they have not implicated the Kurds in the plot. There must now be a greater stimulus for them to pursue a settlement of some kind with the Kurds. Their confidence in dealing with a security problem in Iraq proper does not mean that the army is now in any better shape to achieve military superiority over the Kurds than it has been in the past. I would expect therefore that the talks with the Kurds, confirmed recently to one of our colleagues by Hardan Tikriti, will continue and that the government may well be even more ready to make concessions in order to achieve agreement.

8. The bloody revenge which the Ba'athists are now taking on their opponents will again confirm the view widely-held in Iraq and abroad that the Ba'athists are the most ruthless group engaged in the periodic violent struggle for power in this country. This may be true. They themselves appear to be trying to convince us that it is true, but it is not necessarily so; the plotters, had they succeeded, might well have proved it not so. Nevertheless, for the moment it is the Ba'athists whose conduct is arousing horror and is likely to prejudice the growth of reasonable relations with foreign countries, including - I would guess - most Arab countries. So far as Britain is concerned, this affair will cause a setback to our relations, particularly if British press and radio comment does not quickly find some other juicy story on which to concentrate. It can take credit for the unfriendly demonstration which, so we have just been warned, is at this moment expected to descend on the Embassy.

It did not descend as
far as we know.

Yours ever,

P.M.K.

(P. McKearney)

c.c. P. Joy, Esq., O.B.E.,
BEIRUT

J. S. Champion, Esq., O.B.E.,
TEHRAN.

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List of those tried in the Special Court formed to judge
those implicated in the 20/21 January plot (up to
23 January)

Executed

Brigadier (Retired) Muhammad Rashid Muhsin al Janabi
Staff Colonel (Retired) Salih Mahdi al Samarraie
Lieut. Rafi' Daraj
2/Lieut. Nash'at Askar
W.O. Sufuk Raigan
Staff Colonel Fadhil Mustafa Ahmad
Colonel (Retired) Jabir Hasan Haddad
Staff Colonel (Retired) Salman Daud Abdul Salam al-Darkazli
Police Lt.Col. (Retired) Abbas Jawad al-Salami
2/Lt. Adnan Husain
Sgt. Major Ali Salih Khidhir al-Shanshah
Dr. Nidhamuddin Arif
Radhi Raigan
Police Colonel (Retired) Shukri Mahmud Salih
Police Lieut. (Retired) Khazal Sabri
Salman Mahdi al-Tamimi
Colonel Alauddin Amin al-Hishma
Staff Major (Retired) Sattar Abdul Jabbar al-Aboudi
Sergeant Fakhir Hasan Husain
Captain Majid Turki
Lieut. Anwar Muhammad Husain al-Jumaili
Hasan Husain al-Khaffaf
Staff Colonel Muhammad Abbas Madhlum
Colonel (Retired) Ismail Najim
Staff Captain Wahhab Daud al Hiti
Staff Captain Riyadh Muhammad Shukri al-Mufti
Major Ahmad Abdullah
Lieut. Usam Mahdi
Colonel Kamal Ahmad al Rawi
Sergeant Saddam Abdullah
Advocate Husain Abdul Wahhab al Dallal
Rahi Abdul Wahid Sukkar
Taha Radhi

Sentenced to death in absentia

Major General Abdul Ghani al-Rawi
Shamil Muhammad al Hasan
Muhammad Jafar
Muhammad al Numairi



- 2 -

Sentenced to hard labour for life

Sergeant Major Faisal Kitan
Advocate Abdul Muhsin Abdul Karim al-Duri
Ahmad Karim Abdullah

Sentenced to imprisonment for life

Dr. Fatima al-Khursan
Sa'diyah Salih Jabr

Sentenced to 10 years imprisonment

Private Salih Jabr
Staff Lieut./Col. Daud A'di al Ma'adhidi

Acquitted

Staff Lt.Col. Kamal Jamil Abbud
W.O. Shayyal Zora
Sgt. Major Hammud Karim
Cpl. Abdul Zahra Jasim
Lieut. Watban Ahmad Turki
Staff Lt./Col. (Retired) Hamid Munir
Lieut. Ali Abid Khalaf
Lieut. Zaidan Khalaf
2/Lt. Sakit Shihab Muhammad
Lieut. Mash'al Turki al Rashid
Capt. (Retired) Rafi' Nadhim al Hamami
Lt. Col. Abdullah Ahmad Salih
Lt. Col. (Retired) Muhammad Wafi
Col. (Retired) Khedhir Hammudi
Major Akram Amin

Cutting dated 31 JAN 1970, 19

Blood Ba'ath

by Alan Smith

AFTER 44 executions in Baghdad, the blood-letting in Iraq is staunch, if only temporarily. The "revolutionary court" has stopped sitting, but there are said to be a further 50 conspirators awaiting trial.

The leader of the coup which failed so conspicuously is said to be Abdul Ghani Al-Rawi, a retired brigadier and a former minister in the Kassem regime. He is safely in Tehran where he has been living for some months. Relations between Iraq and Iran are at a very low ebb. And the first refugees from the purge are arriving a little shakily in London. It is from them—eyewitnesses, to put it no higher—that this picture emerges of what went wrong last Tuesday night.

The conspirators now realise that the broad outlines of the plot were known to the Ba'athist regime at least a month before the coup was attempted. Two senior members of the regime, working close to the Ba'ath Command Council, were among the plotters. Both have since been hanged. A third stumbled on the plot at some time in mid-December. He reported to the Government and under instructions continued to work with the conspirators.

It was from this time that the Command Council appears to have taken control of the "coup," to have stage managed almost all of it, even to the point of deciding the timing.

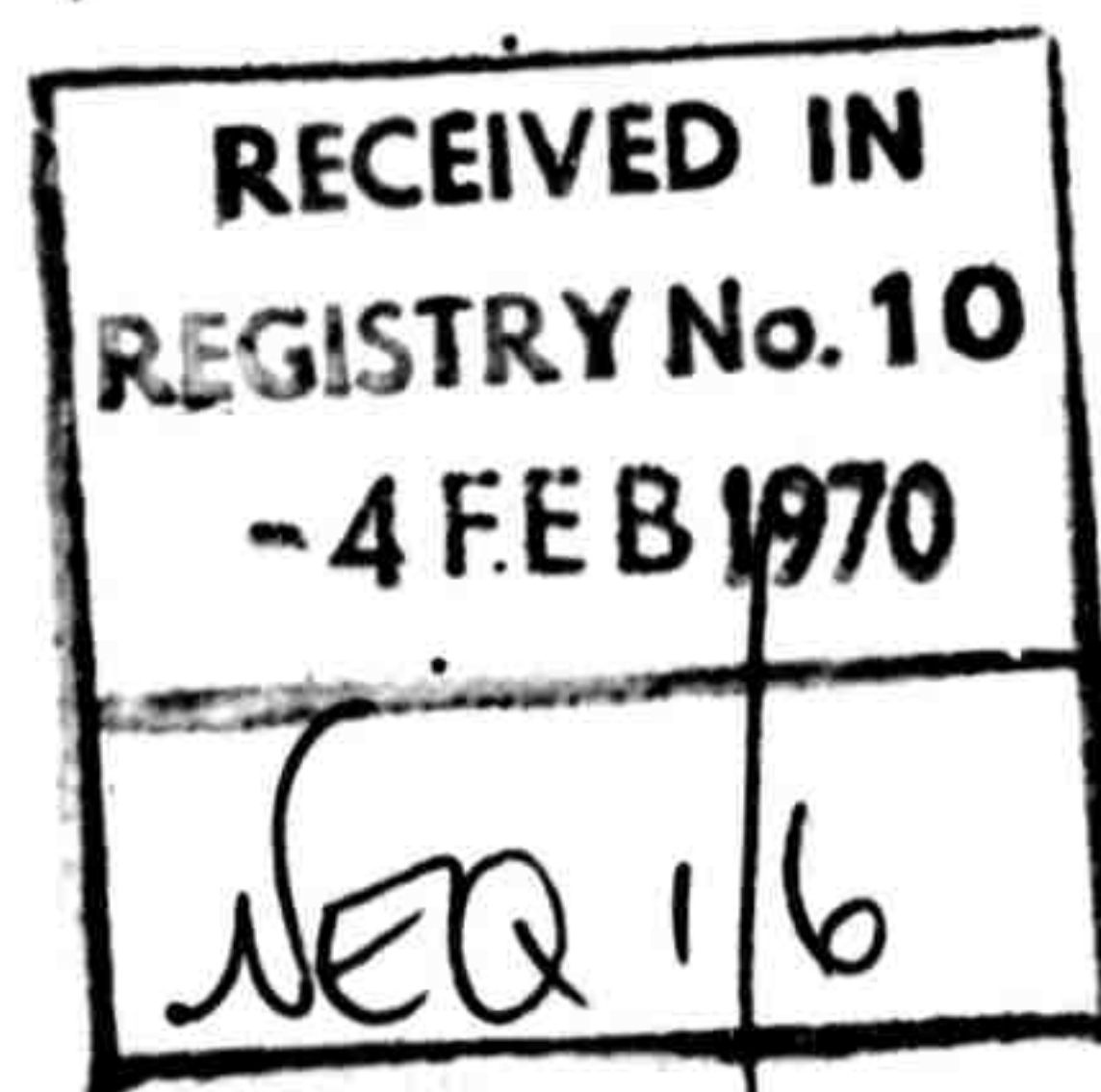
The Command Council's man brought in a number of other officers loyal to the regime and, it is said, a number of others whom the regime was anxious to test, or to contrive an excuse against. By the night of January 20, some 300 army officers were privy to the plot.

On the night, the plan was for the main force to assemble at the Rashid military camp just outside Baghdad. The password to be given to the guards was Bakr, a common enough name, and shared, indeed, by the Ba'athist president, Ahmad Hassan Al Bakr. Just half an hour before the assembly time, midnight, the officers who had infiltrated the plot told the guards the password had been changed, to Sadiq. Those who said Bakr were to assemble at one point in the camp, and those who said Sadiq at another.

The regime's counter-plans worked so smoothly that the conspirators were ready to move well before the appointed hour, 4 a.m. The Bakr group found three lorries waiting to take them to the presidential palace. The weapons which were supposed to be waiting for them were said to have been sent ahead, to the palace and the broadcasting station. The plan was to take the palace, and then the broadcasting station and the Ministry of Defence.

The lorries took off for the palace, and the gates there were opened for them and closed behind them. Loyal armed forces appeared and called for a surrender. There was a confusion of shouting, variously reported as "Don't harm Bakr" and "Testify to the end of the traitor Ahmed Hassan Al Bakr." Some of the conspirators reached the palace, and 12 of them were shot inside the building.

The three-man "revolutionary court" began sitting almost immediately, and the shootings and hangings began within hours. Those executed were mostly army officers up to the rank of lieutenant-colonel, though the regime took the opportunity to execute a further seven, variously and in some cases ludicrously accused of spying for the CIA, or the British Government. They were not involved in the plot.



Reg. & Co.

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ENTER ON REAR JACKET

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British Embassy

BAGHDAD

RECEIVED IN
REGISTRY No. 10

31 January, 1970-5 FEB 1970

(1/6)



Dear Sir,

Attempted Coup

20 — Philip McKearney reported on the attempted coup in his letter 1/6 of 24 January to Acland. Since then we have learned one or two more details about those convicted and have heard a little more about the events surrounding the coup.

2. Among those executed was a Staff Captain Wahhab Daud al Hiti who, we are told, was the brother of Ibrahim Abdul Rahman al Daud, Minister of Defence in the short-lived government from 17-30 July 1968 and at present Ambassador in Madrid. Many Iraqi Ambassadors abroad have sent messages of solidarity with the régime following the attempted coup against it, but understandably perhaps Daud's name has not been amongst them.

3. We have heard that another of those executed, Second Lieutenant Nash'at Askar, was the son of the Under Secretary of the Ministry of Northern Affairs and that he was in command of a post somewhere in the Basra region. Another of those executed was Commander of the 15th Brigade which is deployed near Basra. This ties in with information from some foreigners who travelled from Basra to Baghdad on the night of 20/21 January and who saw troops in vehicles moving northwards on the road, and leads us to believe that the military side of the coup may have developed further than at first seemed likely from the accounts given by the official Iraqi News Agency. The Ambassador had planned to travel to Basra over the weekend 24/25 January but, partly because of the general situation and also because of a message from the BPC representative in Basra, Wheeler, who implied that the situation made it inappropriate for the Ambassador to go there at that time, he postponed his visit. Donald Hawley however went to Basra on 28 January and while there learned that the Chief of Staff of the Iraqi Navy had committed suicide the previous day. Before shooting himself he is said to have admitted his friendship with 15th Brigade Commander but denied any complicity in the plot.

4. The publication of the recordings of conversation between the conspirators has thrown some light on the identity of the officers who infiltrated the plot. Two have been named - Col. Muhammad Said, the Director of Military Operations, and his assistant. This goes a long way to show why the conspirators and the Iranians expected the coup to succeed, a point which had been extremely puzzling given the bare list of nonentities (apart from the C.O. of the 15th Brigade) who were tried for their part in the plot.

P. R. M. Hinchcliffe, Esq.,
Near Eastern Department,
F.C.O.

(J. H. Symons)

c.c. P. Joy, Esq., BEIRUT
J. Champion, Esq., TEHRAN

CONFIDENTIAL

NEQ 1/6

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Mrs. Meir said: We could not and are not prepared to maintain calm from our side while the Egyptians continue to attack us. We have agreed and adhered to the cease-fire agreement and we shall continue to respect that agreement provided Egypt does the same.

The Premier added: Egyptian President Abd an-Nasir, however, is preparing his people to wage war against us, and we shall not wait until he completes his preparations.

The Premier said that the measures she is taking are for the sake of peace and added that, since peace has not yet been achieved, we wish to abide by the cease-fire agreement provided the other side does the same.

Lebanese Agreement with Fida'i Organisations

Beirut home service in Arabic 18.00 GMT 4.2.70

Text of broadcast:

The Minister of Interior, Kamal Junblatt, held a meeting with the Director General of Public Security, a number of military officers and representatives of Palestine organisations. They agreed on measures - in accordance with the Cairo agreement - to control the movement of Palestinians in Lebanon. They also agreed to restore the gendarmerie's authority in the refugee camps. This, however, would be preceded by a short transitional period during which the gendarmerie would co-operate with the Palestine armed struggle officers in refugee camps, after which the gendarmerie would assume their duties and maintain security.

The Minister of Interior said that the agreement on these matters is final. He added that the representatives of Palestine organisations had been responsive and had expressed their complete readiness to carry out the agreement carefully, sincerely and firmly. He said that the question of arms in the camps had also been discussed, including means to control these arms and prevent arms from being carried openly. We shall resume discussion of this and other subjects next week, he said.

Further Arrests of Iraqi Coup "Plotters"

Baghdad home service in Arabic 05.45 GMT 5.2.70

Text of report from the press review:

Taha al-Jazrawi, member of the Socialist Arab Ba'th Party Regional Command, Revolution Command Council member and President of the Special Court, has told 'Al-Jumhuriyah' that several fugitive defendants who participated in the agent reactionary plot have been arrested. The foremost of these is the criminal Muhsin Jarallah, who was indicted by the Special Court on charges of plotting and sentenced to death in absentia.

Jazrawi affirmed to 'Al-Jumhuriyah' that with the arrest of the aforementioned plotters, there were no more dangerous elements at large. He added that the Special Court would soon reconvene to hear the cases of arrested defendants.

Answering a question on the rumours circulated by Zionist, imperialist and reactionary trumpets abroad on the nature of the formation of the Special Court, Jazrawi said that the court was regarded as a civil court because he was the only military member of the court and the other two members were civilians.

'Al-Jumhuriyah' has learned that the criminal Muhsin Jarallah, who was indicted by the Special Court on charges of plotting and treason and sentenced to death in absentia, was a thief. He was appointed by Nuri as-Sayid as a police commissioner. He exploited his job to collect a lot of money through bribery and owned a large number of

houses, shops and other properties in the cities of Thawrah and Washash. The criminal Jarallah is regarded as [words indistinct] of the elements of plotting because he played a dirty part in involving simple people in the plot by exploiting sectarian fanaticism. His role in the recent plot was to handle arrangements for two meeting places in the cities of Shulah and Thawrah.

Moshe Dayan on the Open Bridges Policy

Israel home service in Hebrew 14.00 GMT 4.2.70

Text of report:

The Defence Minister Moshe Dayan said in the Knesset today that, although he knew the security risks involved in the policy of open bridges, he was convinced this policy should be maintained. The Arabs living in the Israeli administered areas should not be isolated from the Arab world because they considered themselves part of it. The Defence Minister also said it was likely that a situation would develop in which the damage resulting from the open bridges policy would be greater than the benefit. In such a case, Dayan said, there will be no difficulty in cancelling free movement across the borders. The Defence Minister made this statement in reply to a motion about the agenda by the Knesset Member Shmuel Tamir of the Free Centre.

Dayan also said that most of the weapons reaching the terrorist organisations operating in the administered areas did not come over the bridges. He said that, for the most part, they were smuggled across the borders via the Sinai Desert south of Eilat or brought by boats approaching the long shores of the country.

Other Arab-Israeli Affairs

Air attacks in Canal area (Text of UAR reports) Our fighter-bombers have continued for the fourth consecutive day to raid enemy positions in Sinai south of the Lakes. Our aircraft returned safely after having fully carried out their mission (Cairo in Arabic 10.05 GMT 4.2.70). For the fifth time in the past four days, our fighter-bombers this morning [4.2.70] raided enemy positions east of the Canal in the Firdan area. Our aircraft hit and set fire to enemy installations. Consecutive explosions occurred. All our aircraft returned safely after successfully completing their mission (Cairo in Arabic 12.30 GMT 4.2.70). Four enemy aircraft carried out a 10-minute raid on our positions in the Canal area at about 16.00 today. Our air defences opposed them with heavy fire forcing them to flee eastwards. Two of our soldiers were wounded. (Cairo in Arabic 21.07 GMT 4.2.70)

(Text of Israeli reports) Two Egyptian aircraft attacked an Israeli Army position in the Suez Canal area this morning. There were no casualties or damage. The raid took place at about 09.40, when two Sukhoi-7s attacked a position south of the Small Bitter Lake. The two aircraft dropped bombs in hit and run tactics. Later at 10.50, two Egyptian aircraft attacked an Israeli army position in the central sector of the Suez Canal near Firdan. There were no casualties or damage (Israel in Arabic 11.00 GMT 4.2.70). The Israeli Air Force attacked Egyptian military targets in the northern and southern sectors of the Suez Canal today. All our aircraft returned safely. The attack began about 15.50 and lasted about 20 minutes (Israel in Hebrew 15.00 GMT 4.2.70).

Exchange of fire in Jordan Valley (Text of Jordanian reports) The enemy opened medium machine-gun and mortar fire on our forces in the area of the King Husayn [Allenby] Bridge in the southern Jordan Valley at 16.50 today [4.2.70]. Our forces returned the fire. A sporadic exchange of fire lasted until 17.25. Our forces suffered no losses (Amman in Arabic 16.05 GMT 4.2.70). The enemy resumed medium machine-gun, mortar and artillery fire on our forces in the area of the King Husayn Bridge at 17.40 today. Our forces returned the fire. The exchange continued until 18.40 when the enemy fire sources were silenced. Our forces suffered no losses (Amman in Arabic 19.07 GMT 4.2.70).

(Text of Israeli report) An Israeli Defence Forces soldier was wounded at about 18.30 today in an exchange of mortar fire in the Allenby Bridge area in the Jordan Valley. (Israel in Hebrew 20.00 GMT 4.2.70)

Bazooka fire in Hebron (Text) Several Bazooka rockets were fired at an Israeli border guard patrol in Hebron at about midnight last night. The patrol returned the fire. There were no casualties or damage. The security forces are now mopping up the area. (Israel in Arabic 09.00 GMT 4.2.70)

Firing in Gaza Strip An Israeli civilian was wounded at 18.00 on 4th February near Bayt Hanun in the Gaza Strip when a civilian vehicle travelling on the main road came under small arms fire. (Israel in Hebrew 20.00 GMT 4.2.70)

Engagement in Negev (Text) Four saboteurs were killed yesterday afternoon [4.2.70] when an IDF patrol met a group of saboteurs east of Ein Yahav village. Several mortar bombs were fired from that area last night into our territory, killing one Israeli soldier and wounding another. The IDF spokesman has declared that it is almost certain that the saboteur group suffered other casualties. (Israel in Arabic 04.30 GMT 5.2.70)

Arrests in refugee camp The security forces a few days ago arrested in the Nusayrat refugee camp three terrorists, members of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, and 10 people who had helped them. The three detainees have admitted carrying out a number of sabotage actions, including actions against local residents who were co-operating with the authorities. (Israel in Hebrew 21.00 GMT 4.2.70)

Sentence on "spy" (Text) The Haifa District court today [4.2.70] sentenced Ghazi Kamal Sadi, aged 37, a publisher from Acre, to 12 years imprisonment after finding him guilty of spying for Syria. (Israel in Hebrew 14.00 GMT 4.2.70)

Repatriation of Lebanese from Kafr Kala A man who was among those captured during the Israeli Army raid on the Lebanese village of Kafr Kala a month ago was released and returned to Lebanon on 4th February. (Israel in Hebrew 15.00 GMT 4.2.70)

Asifah Operations (Abstract of Palestine Armed Struggle Command statements) Group 1009 destroyed a half-track and inflicted casualties on the road between Wadi as-Salqah and al-Qararah south of Dayr al-Balah. On 3rd February Group 35 inflicted casualties on an ambush force near Tall Qitaf. On 4th February Group 77 inflicted damage and casualties on the Tall Abu ad-Dhahab Camp in the Golan Heights. On 3rd February Group 35 inflicted casualties on an engineer patrol near Zawr Abdullah. Group 161 inflicted casualties on an ambush force opposite the Shaykh Husayn Bridge. Group 1009 destroyed a half-track and inflicted casualties on the Khan Yunis-Rafah road and damaged a jeep in the same area. Between 1st and 4th February snipers carried out 17 operations. Group 190 blew up an ammunition dump and destroyed an armoured vehicle on the Ayn as-Sawdah road. On the night of 29th-30th January Asifah forces inflicted casualties on the bridge camp in the Gaza Strip. On 4th February other forces inflicted heavy casualties on an engineer patrol near Zawr Abdullah. ("Voice of Fatah" in Arabic 18.30 GMT 4.2.70)

"Voice of Fatah" programme 4.2.70 The "Voice of Fatah" programme in Arabic (18.30 GMT) on 4th February said that the Arabs were determined to solve their problems by fighting; called on the Arab members of the Jerusalem Municipal Council to resign; said that Arab information media were not fully supporting the revolution; praised the inhabitants of Beit Sahur; and said that the Israeli leaders were concealing the truth about Fatah operations.

Arab Radio Comment 4.2.70

IRAQ 19.00 GMT: The gravity of the present situation and the importance of the forthcoming front-line conference.

JORDAN 19.00 GMT: The duty of the UN to save world peace.

LEBANON 18.00 GMT: Israeli aggression.

MOROCCO 20.30 GMT: King Hasan II's visit to France.

SAUDI ARABIA (Riyad) 18.00 GMT: Islamic support for the Arabs.

SYRIA 12.15 GMT (repeated 19.15 GMT): The gravity of the present situation.

"Voice of the Arabian Peninsula" (Damascus) 17.30 GMT: (i) Talk in series criticising the Saudi labour law; (ii) Iranian aid to Israel.

UAR 12.30 GMT: Abd al-Fattah Hilal on Bertrand Russell's letter to the international conference of parliamentarians. 18.30 GMT ("We and the World"): (i) Bertrand Russell's letter; (ii) Soviet approach to Western Powers (see above).

"Voice of the Arabs" (Cairo) 11.30 GMT: Abd al-Fattah al-Adawi on Bertrand Russell's letter. 14.15 GMT ("Palestine Service"): Adil al-Qadi on support for the Arabs at the international conference of parliamentarians. 15.15 GMT ("People in Sinai"): Israeli restrictions on Arab fishermen in Sinai. 16.20 GMT ("Conversation with a Listener"): Determination of the Arabs to win the struggle. 17.00 GMT ("Arabian Peninsula"): Muhammad Abu al-Futuh on the just Arab struggle. 18.00 GMT: Muhammad Uruq on US support for Israel.

"Maghrib Service" (Cairo) 21.30 GMT: Israeli aggression.

Reports in Brief

Aden attack on BBC (Text) The newspaper '14th October', published in Aden, has accused London radio of broadcasting news and commentaries in a twisted manner to make the Arabs doubt themselves, their positions, their abilities and their relations with their friends. In an article published today [3.2.70], the newspaper says that London radio is actively (?participating in) the psychological warfare against the Arabs. It warns the Arab listener against the gravity of the venom disseminated by the British radio under the pretext of presenting unbiased information. (Baghdad in Arabic 19.00 GMT 3.2.70)

Report of "new espionage network" in Iraq (Text) Beirut: 'Al-Anwar' says today [4.2.70] that the Iraqi authorities have recently discovered a new espionage network working for US Intelligence and Israel. The paper adds that the ring is led by a Baghdad shopowner and consists of three persons including a relative of the leader and a worker in the [word indistinct] forces. (Syrian Arab News in Arabic 09.30 GMT 4.2.70)

Muhammad Ayish's return from Prague The Chairman of the Iraqi Trade Union General Federation Muhammad Ayish returned to Baghdad from Prague on 4th February. (Baghdad in Arabic 19.00 GMT 4.2.70)

The "Voice of Iraqi Kurdistan" broadcast on 4th February (15.55 GMT) warned against plots to undermine present efforts for a solution to the Kurdish problem and called on the Iraqi people to unite in the struggle against traitors and mercenaries.

Lebanese delegation in Syria The Minister of the Interior Muhammad Rabah at-Tawil on 4th February received a Lebanese Ministry of the Interior delegation which handed him a message from the Lebanese Minister Kamal Junblatt. The delegation also met a number of prominent Ministry officials and later left Damascus for Beirut. (Damascus in Arabic 12.15 GMT 4.2.70)

[SPECIAL REPORTS]

NEQ 1/6

Pu MM ul

"PROGRESSIVES", "REACTIONARIES" AND THE
"PLOT" IN IRAQ: WHO THE "PLOTTERS" ARE

Iraq

For the past three days, the state-controlled press and radio in Baghdad have been saying that if the "progressive" elements in Iraq had stood together instead of fighting among themselves, the "reactionaries" would not have dared to stage plots like the one they attempted last week. A comment by RADIO BAGHDAD complained that even now the progressive elements in Iraq and in other Arab countries have not shown enough backing to the Iraqi Government in the wake of the abortive attempt.

In these comments, the point was continually stressed that the Baath party now in power in Iraq, has maintained an open mind where the other progressive groups in the country were concerned. Apparently, some of these groups do not think so. For example, despite the fact that the Iraqi Baathists attributed a great deal of importance and publicity to the appointment of Mr Aziz Sharif as Minister of Justice, the Iraqi Communist leaders, in an official statement, indicated that this fell short of what they had been asking for. They also described Mr Sharif as an "independent personality" --meaning that he did not represent the Communist Party in the Iraqi Cabinet (see our bulletin of January 22nd). Mr Sharif is head of the Peace Partisan Movement; he may not be a member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party, but he is known to be a veteran communist. Just the same, his appointment did not completely eliminate the deep-rooted communist suspicion of the Baathists in Iraq, which dates back to the serious conflict between them starting in 1959, when the communists suppressed the Baathists at the time of the regime of Premier Abdel Kerim Kassim, and in 1963, when the Baathists, then in power in Baghdad the first time, suppressed the communists harshly.

During his press conference in Beirut last week, Lt-General Hardan Abdel Ghaffar Takriti, the Iraqi Defense Minister, was heckled by the reporter of Beirut's communist daily AL NIDA, who, in several questions he submitted, wanted to know why the Baathist regime "persecuted" the "progressive elements" in Iraq. When General Takriti denied this, and insisted that not one single communist remained in Iraqi prisons, the reporter kept on asking the same kind of questions. When he set out to give examples, he was cut short, and General Takriti said that he would not answer questions that were based on something that did not exist.

And The Syrian Baathists. And now, a Beirut newspaper which reflects views of the rival Baathist faction in Damascus, has charged that it was the present Iraqi rulers who broke up the progressive front in Iraq by allegedly suppressing and persecuting the "genuine progressives." What's more, AL RAYAH said in its lead story yesterday, the present rulers were the ones who cooperated with the same elements who last week attempted the coup against the Baghdad regime.

The paper, in what it described as a special dispatch from Baghdad with "the facts" about the coup last week, said that most of those who have been executed as "plotters" last week were members of the "Arab Revolutionary Movement", which had been founded by Abdel Razzak Al Nayef, the partner with the Baathists in the July 17th, 1968, coup against the regime of former President Abdel Rahman Aref, and by Major General Ibrahim Al Daoud, the former Defense Minister.

It will be recalled that Al Nayef was appointed Premier after the July 17th, 1968, coup while Al Daoud was named Defense Minister. On July 30th --13 days later-- Nayef was ousted and

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Near Eastern Department

12 February, 1970

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(NEQ.1/6)

Abortive Coup in Iraq

We are grateful for the very full coverage that you and other members of your staff have provided on the extraordinary events of 21 January. Your letter 1/6 of 31 January was particularly useful.

2. The Iraqi's treatment of the corpses of those executed for their part in the plot, as described in your first paragraph, certainly seems to justify the epithets used by the press here. The newspapers now have lost interest in Iraq and are not taking much notice of the latest deterioration in Iraq/Iran relations, so the Iraqis should have nothing further to complain about (as far as the biased "British publicity media" are concerned) until the next series of executions!

3. The Iraqis, having caught the Iranians with their pants well below their knees on this occasion, appear to be intent on exploiting their advantage to the full. As usual they have over-reacted and I do not think that any of their Arab or other friends really believe that the Iranians pose a direct military threat to Iraq. Present Iranian tactics appear to us to be aimed at confusing the issue by concentrating on publicising the Iraqi treatment of their diplomats in Baghdad and such representations as reported in our telegram no. 57 of 30 January (to Tehran) have been made in most Western capitals. The Iranian Ambassador called on the Secretary of State today and surprisingly enough did not have much to say about Iraq apart from a generalised dissertation on the threat to the Gulf presented by Russian influence there.

4. Judging from the fact, that so far, no dramatic announcement has been made in Baghdad about peace with the Kurds, Iranian blandishments to Bakhtiari may now be proving more effective, at least as far as he personally is concerned, than the prospect of living in an uneasy peace with the Ba'athists.

(J. P. Tripp)

H.E. Mr. H. G. Balfour Paul,
BAGHDAD

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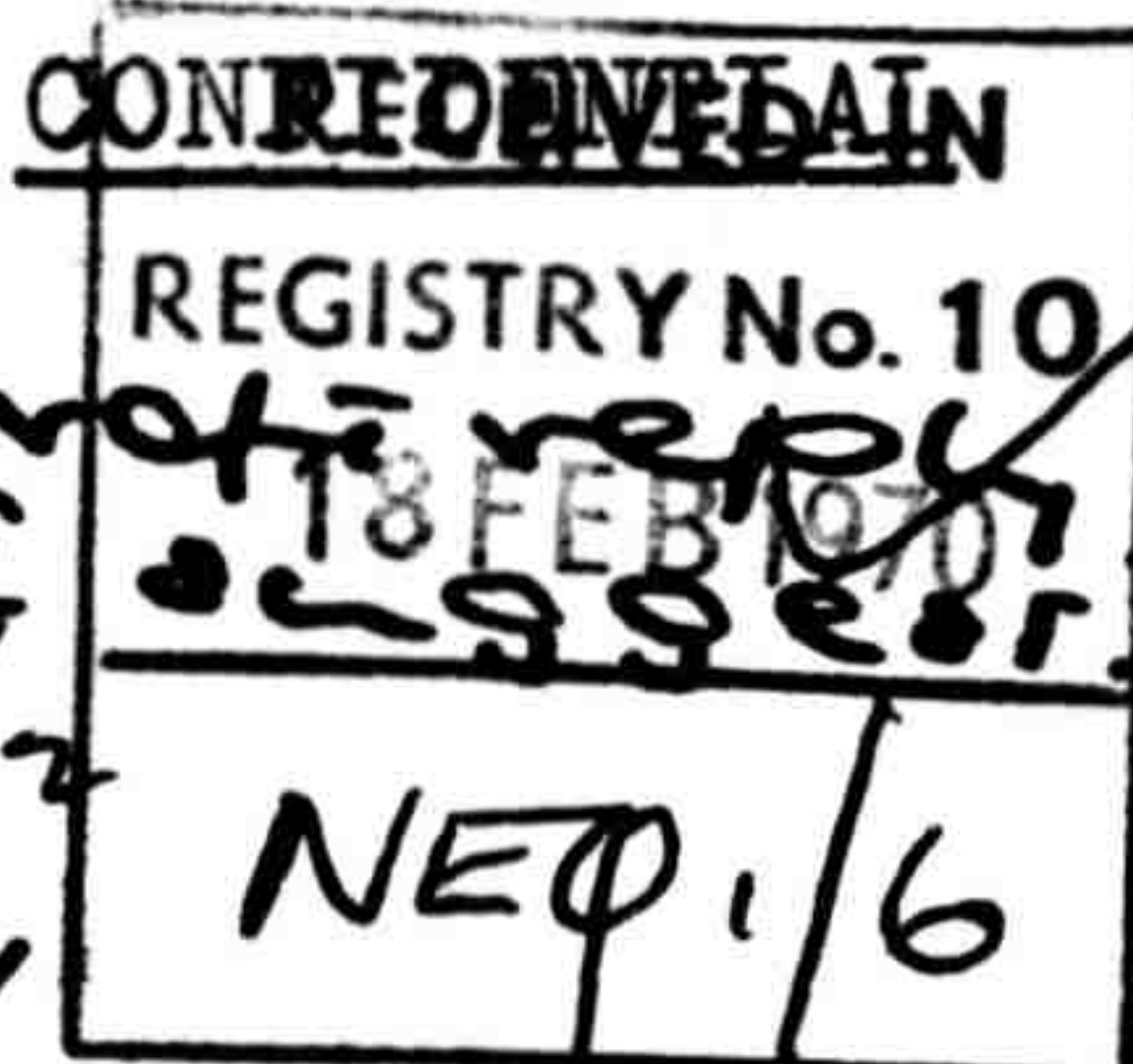
BRITISH EMBASSY

BAGHDAD

31 January 1970

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(1/6)



Mr. Cross 9852.
Mr. [unclear] [unclear]
RE. [unclear] 9/2.

② Mr. [unclear] for [unclear]
③ News Dept.
④ I.A. Dept. [unclear]
⑤ [unclear]
BIP 18/2
(IPD)

Abortive Coup in Iraq

Your Department has received a number of reports from us on the recent fiasco here, and John Symons is sending some further details by today's bag (not to Amman and Cairo). The object of this letter is simply to offer you a few afterthoughts.

Bloodbath.

2. However horrific the treatment meted out to the conspirators, I think it should not be forgotten that this was as nothing to the bloodbath that would certainly have taken place had the coup succeeded. No-one here would question this, least of all of course the Government. Moreover, I have the impression that local anti-Ba'athist opinion was much less appalled by the executions themselves than by the fact that the corpses were, at least in some cases, kicked off a lorry and dumped in the mud outside the houses of their next of kin with the words "Take your dog!" The bloody punishment of plotters is, I suppose, part of the Iraqi way of life and locally accepted as such; but this final stomach-turning detail was certainly a bit much.

The British Press and the BBC.

3. In a sense, of course, The Times and the BBC played into the hands of the Government here and enabled it to counter-attack viciously, pointing out that the British "press campaign" against Iraq proved where British sympathies lay and, by a convenient non sequitur, to deduce that the British were behind the plot. You may have seen the lengths to which this line was taken by Baghdad Radio in the monitoring reports of, for instance, 23 January. Although, as I reported in my telegram No. 69, I was assured by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs that no suspicions were harboured against us of complicity, both President Bakr (when addressing an assembly of religious leaders) and Salah Omar al Ali of the R.C.C. (at some agricultural function) have since been reported as making charges

/of

J.P. Tripp, Esq.,
Near Eastern Department,
Foreign & Commonwealth Office,
London, S.W.1.

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Iranian Complicity

5. The tape-recordings of the conspirators' conversations, of which five or six instalments have now been broadcast by Baghdad Radio, bear all the marks of authenticity. Moreover, they confirm in singular detail such evidence as was already to hand of Iranian involvement. It may be worth adding that the Iranian Charge has admitted to Philip McKearney and others that "some members of the Embassy staff" were indeed implicated, though he insists that the Ambassador himself was unaware of what was going on. In point of fact, I have myself been led by various pointers to wonder whether Ameli himself had not indeed been left in the dark, however astonishing this must seem. (Certainly his performance at a dinner party which both of us attended - in, of all places, the American Embassy! - on the night of 21 January was

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Effect on the Kurds

7. Your Department will also be receiving by this bag a current assessment of the prospects of the negotiations with Barazani which have been proceeding for some weeks. My guess is that, in the light of the abortive coup, Barazani is in something of a dilemma. On the one hand, he may reckon that the Ba'athists have now secured such a grip on this country that he had better come to terms while the coming is good. On the other hand, one must assume that, having failed to unseat the régime by a coup-de-main, the Iranians will now be making him increasingly tempting offers of further assistance. Which way he will jump remains to be seen.

Yours ever
Glen

(H.G. Balfour Paul)

Copies to: H.M.R.R. in Amman, Beirut, Cairo and Tehran.

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BRITISH EMBASSY

BAGHDAD

31 January 1970

(1/6)

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W. H. Jackson for draft reply.
I suggest.
I.A. Dept. Dear Peter,

Mr. Symons 9852.
Mr. [unclear] [unclear]
R.E. 9/2.
Encl. [unclear]

Abortive Coup in Iraq

Your Department has received a number of reports from us on the recent fiasco here, and John Symons is sending some further details by today's bag (not to Amman and Cairo). The object of this letter is simply to offer you a few afterthoughts.

Bloodbath.

2. However horrific the treatment meted out to the conspirators, I think it should not be forgotten that this was as nothing to the bloodbath that would certainly have taken place had the coup succeeded. No-one here would question this, least of all of course the Government. Moreover, I have the impression that local anti-Ba'athist opinion was much less appalled by the executions themselves than by the fact that the corpses were, at least in some cases, kicked off a lorry and dumped in the mud outside the houses of their next of kin with the words "Take your dog!" The bloody punishment of plotters is, I suppose, part of the Iraqi way of life and locally accepted as such; but this final stomach-turning detail was certainly a bit much.

The British Press and the BBC.

3. In a sense, of course, The Times and the BBC played into the hands of the Government here and enabled it to counter-attack viciously, pointing out that the British "press campaign" against Iraq proved where British sympathies lay and, by a convenient non sequitur, to deduce that the British were behind the plot. You may have seen the lengths to which this line was taken by Baghdad Radio in the monitoring reports of, for instance, 23 January. Although, as I reported in my telegram No. 69, I was assured by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs that no suspicions were harboured against us of complicity, both President Bakr (when addressing an assembly of religious leaders) and Salah Omar al Ali of the R.C.C. (at some agricultural function) have since been reported as making charges

/of

J.P. Tripp, Esq.,
Near Eastern Department,
Foreign & Commonwealth Office,
London, S.W.1.

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RECEIVED IN REGISTRY No. 10 19 FEB 1970 NEP. / 6

February 6th, 1970

27

P.O. PNM
14/2IRAQI LEADER GIVES MORE DETAILS ON RECENT PLOT

Plot

Mr. Sidam Hussein Al Takriti, Vice Chairman of Iraq's Revolution Command Council and Assistant Secretary General of the National (Iraqi) Leadership of the ruling Arab Baath Socialist Party, was one of the main targets of the recent anti-state plot foiled by the Iraqi authorities last month, according to Beirut's weekly and pro-Iraq, AL SAYYAD yesterday.

The weekly published what it described as a letter sent by Abdel Ghani Al Rawi, accused of leading the alleged plot (he is still at large), to Safouk Rikan, one of 37 Iraqis executed in connection with the plot. In the letter, Rawi asked Rikan to either kill or kidnap Takriti on the grounds that he was a major obstacle in the way of implementing the plot. Rawi showed preference to the kidnapping of Takriti "so that we can make use of him." He suggested that when kidnapped, Takriti should be brought to Iran, "not to Syria for the two Baath factions sympathize with each other despite their apparent differences."

Active for Long Time. AL SAYYAD, in an interview with Takriti, reported him as saying that "the reactionaries" and their "executive agents" had been active for a long time since the July 14th, 1958, revolution, which toppled the monarchy in Iraq. He said they made several attempts during the past decade and became more or less active under different conditions. They, however, failed to make any significant gains, he said.

"Their main aim," Takriti added, "was to get Iraq back to the period before the July 14th, 1958, revolution." In the recent plot, he said, "new faces were brought in, such as Abdel Ghani Al Rawi and other retired officers, and a more prominent and effective role was given to foreign countries, such as Iran." He claimed that "the Anglo-Saxon-reactionary alliance was the executive apparatus of the plot."

Executions. Asked to explain the mass-executions and the quick action taken against the "plotters", Takriti said: "That was something natural. How does imperialism expect us to treat those who threatened the revolution and the people? The only way to deal with them is to bury them before they were able to bury the people." He added that it was also natural to act quickly because "all the material evidence was available to incriminate them." If there were no sufficient evidence, he said, the trials could have lasted for months.

Kurdish Problem. Takriti said that one of the aims of the plotters was to obstruct the ruling Baath's efforts to reach a peaceful settlement for the Kurdish problem. He explained that by keeping the Kurdish problem pending, Iraq's combat capabilities and resources would be less effective in confronting imperialism and Zionism. He expressed approval of the current dialogue between the Baathist government in Baghdad and the Kurdish insurgents led by Mulla Mustafa Barzani. He emphasized that neither of the two sides could achieve a permanent solution to this problem through military victories.

National Front. While stressing that the ruling Baath was still conducting negotiations for expanding the national front, Takriti said that practical steps have already been taken towards this end on the level of trade unions, syndicates and students federations. He went on to say that Iraq was also making efforts to bring about closer cooperation with other Arab countries (which he did not specify) "in order to serve the Arab cause, mainly, the Palestine case."

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IV(A) - THE NEAR AND MIDDLE EAST

11.00 GMT 26.2.70 - 11.00 GMT 27.2.70

New Baghdad Plot Trial Baghdad radio's 05.45 GMT press review of 27th February reported the following headlines: "The special court will try a new group of plotters tomorrow - The special court will meet on Saturday morning to try a new group of plotters, who were recently arrested - Those to be tried include Muhsin Jarallah, who was previously sentenced to death in absentia and who has now been arrested - The other defendants are Jabbar Khidr, Kazim Sayyid Jawad, Sgt-Maj. Mahmud Karim, Jabbar Sarhan and Salih Jawad - They were all assigned roles in the abortive imperialist reactionary plot - Muhsin Jarallah revealed his role in the confessions he made when arrested."

US Aircraft for Israel Muhammad Sharaf said in Cairo radio's 12.30 GMT home service commentary that President Nixon's decision to supply Israel with more Phantoms and Skyhawks did not surprise or frighten the Arabs, who were prepared to pay the full price for victory.*

The "Voice of Fatah", also referring to President Nixon's decision "to supply the Zionist presence with 25 more Phantom aircraft", said that the Arab masses knew they would be exposed to more raids by US aircraft deep into their territory, and it was even likely that the time would come when the pilots, too, would come from the USA.*

The Swissair Incident In a commentary on 25th February, Beirut radio said that Israel had exploited "the two aircraft incidents in Switzerland" to fan hatred against the Arabs despite the fact that the Resistance organisations were not responsible.*

Damascus radio, commenting on 26th February on "Zionist attempts to exploit the mysterious Swiss aircraft incident", said that many quarters thought it not unlikely that it had been "arranged by the Zionist movement". The radio said that the London Airport workers had withdrawn their boycott of Arab aircraft on realising that British interests might suffer as a result; it added that Swiss interests might also suffer.*

PFLP Postcard to Israel Israel radio broadcast the following report at 21.00 GMT on 26th February: "The Defence Ministry recently received a postcard from the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine showing the part this terrorist organisation plays in attacks on aircraft. The postcard shows an attack on an El Al aircraft. It was sent from Saragossa in Spain and contains threats against Zionism and Israel."

President Tito in Libya The Libyan radio said in a commentary on 26th February that it was no coincidence that President Tito's tour of various Arab countries had come at a critical juncture when the Arabs were "facing an adverse situation"; it had come as "a new reaffirmation of Yugoslavia's friendship for the Arabs and its staunch support for strugglers in the occupied territories and for those dispersed in refugee camps".*

At 07.00 GMT on 27th February the Libyan radio said that the previous day President Tito had received Abu Tariq, representative of Fatah in Libya, in the presence of Colonel Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi, Chairman of the Revolution Command Council and Premier, and certain other members of the Revolution Command Council. Abu Tariq was stated to have said afterwards that President Tito had expressed Yugoslavia's readiness to reinforce the Palestine revolution and to support fida'i activities against "the Zionist gangsters". At 07.50 GMT the radio began a relay from Tripoli airport reporting the departure of President Tito, who was stated to have arrived at the airport at 08.20 GMT. The relay suffered a series of interruptions announced as being due to technical faults. The regular bulletin at 09.00 GMT announced that President Tito had in fact left at 10.30 (i.e. 08.30 GMT).

* For details see Appendices

IV(B) - NON - ARAB AFRICA

11.00 GMT 26.2.70 - 11.00 GMT 27.2.70

Rhodesia The announcement that the new Republican Constitution would come into effect on 1st March and that Parliament would be dissolved on the following day and a general election held on 10th April was broadcast by Salisbury radio at 16.00 GMT on 26th February. *

Johannesburg radio commented on the announcement next morning, in its "Topic of the Day" programme. It said that Rhodesia had been a de facto republic for some time. The step now taken would make no difference as regards the judicial system. The political difference would be that the mixed voting principle would not apply in the elections in April. The economic effect was likely to be a spur to national growth. Diplomatically, Rhodesia's republican status would bring about a change. Diplomatic recognition by other countries would be possible and trade relations would be easier. "However, no immediate announcement can be expected on the establishment of diplomatic relations. The South African Foreign Minister, for example, has said that the republic in Rhodesia will make no difference to existing relations between South Africa and Rhodesia." *

Senegalese Premier Appointed The appointment of Abdou Diouf as Premier in Senegal following the approval of constitutional changes at the recent referendum was reported. *

The OAU Ministerial Council Meeting Addis Ababa radio stated that all 41 countries belonging to the Organisation of African Unity would be represented at the meeting opening on 27th February.

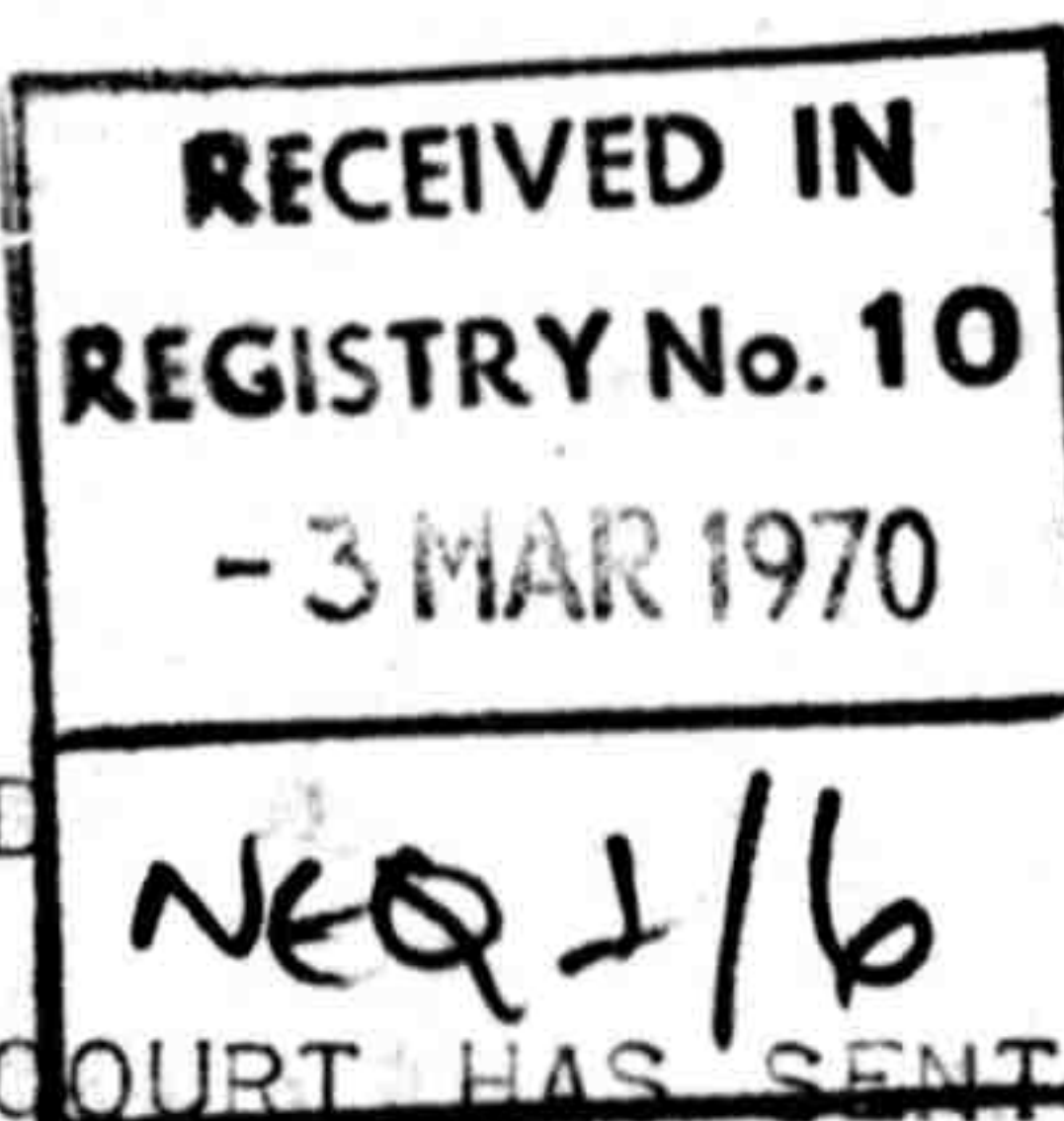
The OAU Liberation Committee Kampala radio reported that at the meeting in Addis Ababa of the committee of seven examining the position and functions of the OAU Liberation Committee it had been decided that this special committee should go to Dar es Salaam in April to investigate the Liberation Committee's activities on the spot. Lagos radio, in a talk attacking President Nyerere, said that as long as he was in the saddle in Tanzania the OAU should consider it dangerous to keep the headquarters of the Liberation Committee there. The broadcast asserted that arms intended for freedom fighters in Angola and Mozambique had been diverted to the secessionist forces in Nigeria. *

* For details see Appendices

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B U R G E N T



B5 IRAQ: ALLEGED PLOTTER EXECUTED

BAGHDAD RADIO SAYS A SPECIAL COURT HAS SENTENCED TO DEATH
MUHSIN JARALLAH AN ALLEGED PLOTTER, AND THAT THE DEATH SENTENCE
HAS ALREADY BEEN CARRIED OUT.

MF BBC MON 0750 2/3 G.T. (TVN)

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B5 PLOTTER 2: NAYYIF SENTENCED TO DEATH IN ABSENTIA

THE RADIO ALSO SAYS THAT THE COURT +HAS CONVICTED ABD AL-RAZZAQ
AL-NAYYIF AND HIS CLIQUE ON THE CHARGE OF PLOTTING AGAINST THE
PROGRESSIVE REGIME IN IRAQ, AND HAS SENTENCED (?HIM) IN ABSENTIA
TO DEATH BY FIRING SQUAD+.

MF BBC MON 0755 2/3 G.T.

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B5 PLOTTER 3:

THE RADIO ALSO SAYS THAT RETIRED STAFF COL. ABD AL-RAZZAQ SAID
AL-RAWI AND LT. TAHR JABIR WERE SENTENCED IN ABSENTIA TO DEATH
BY FIRING SQUAD AND THAT SABBAM ABD AL-JABBAR AL-RAWI WAS SENTENCED
IN ABSENTIA TO DEATH BY HANGING.

END BBC MON 0758 2/3 G.T. (KY)

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Reg. P.O.

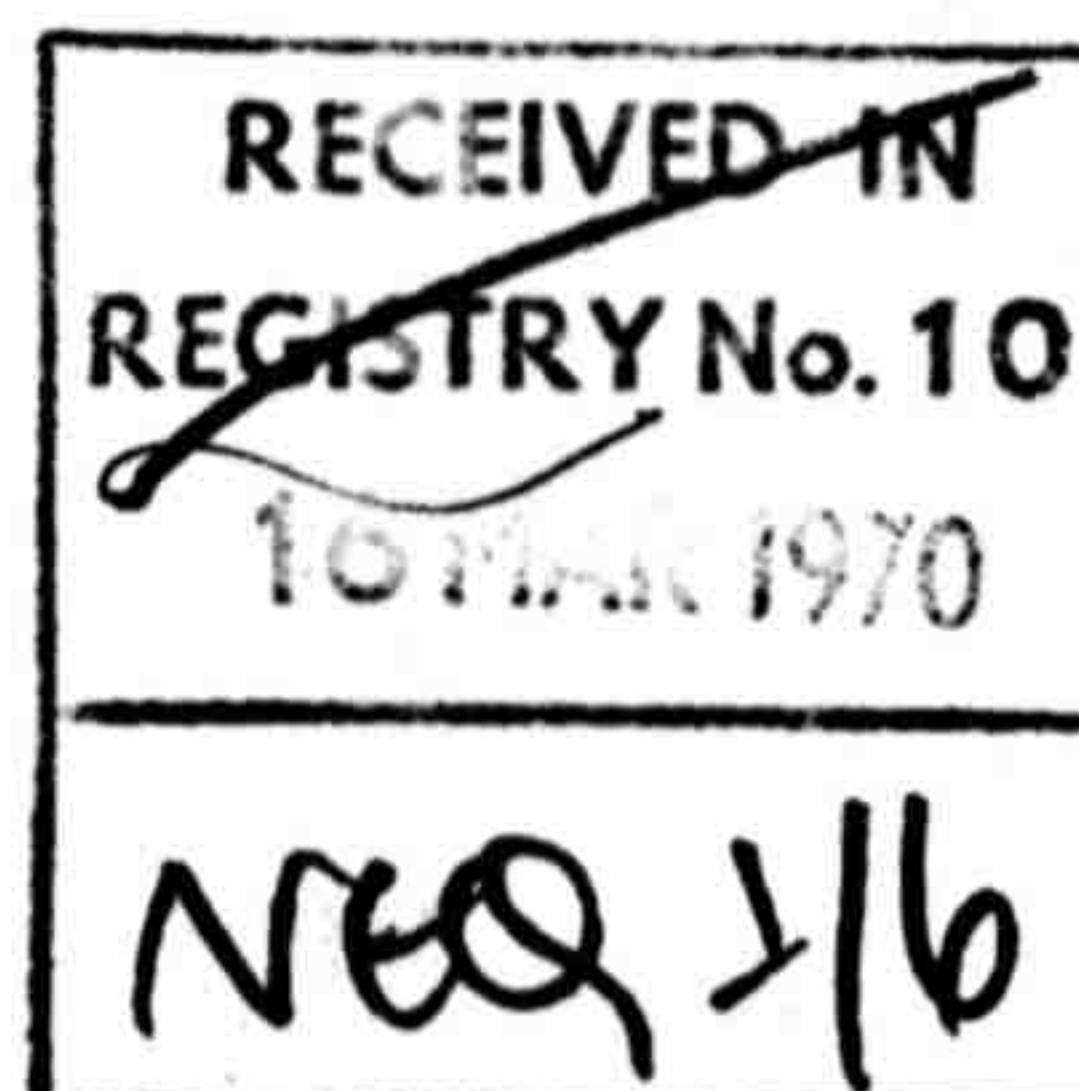
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B6 BAGHDAD SENTENCES: FULL (AMPLIFIES B5)

NE (BAGHDAD RADIO) THE SPECIAL COURT CHAIRED BY COMRADE TAHA AL-JAZRAWI MEMBER OF THE BAATH PARTY REGIONAL COMMAND AND OF THE REVOLUTION COMMAND COUNCIL, HAS CONVICTED CRIMINAL ABD AL-RAZZAQ AL-NAYIF AND HIS CLIQUE ON THE CHARGE OF PLOTTING AGAINST THE PROGRESSIVE REGIME IN IRAQ, AND HAS SENTENCED (?HIM) IN ABSENTIA TO DEATH BY FIRING SQUAD AND ORDERED HIS DISMISSAL FROM THE ARMY.

MF BBC MON 2/3 JL (TVN) 0803



B6 SENTENCES (FULL) 2:

THE COURT HAS ESTABLISHED THAT CRIMINAL AL-NAYIF PARTICIPATED WITH THE CLIQUE INVOLVED IN THE FOILED REACTIONARY PLOT TO OVERTHROW THE 17TH JULY REVOLUTION. HE ACTUALLY TOOK PART IN PLANNING THE MEAN PLOT. HE CONDUCTED WIDESCALE CONTACTS WITH THE ELEMENTS ENTRUSTED WITH THE EXECUTION OF THE PLOT AND THEIR MASTERS IN THE AGENT IRANIAN GOVERNMENT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PLANS OF AMERICAN CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AND ZIONISM-WHICH PREPARED THE PLOT AND PREPARED FOR THE SMUGGLING OF ARMS TO IRAQ AND FOR SUPPLYING THE PLOTTERS WITH MONEY TO OVERTHROW THE REVOLUTIONARY REGIME IN IRAQ AND STAB THE IRAQI ARMY ON THE FRONTLINE, IN THE BACK.

CRIMINAL AL-NAYIF'S NAME WAS FREQUENTLY MENTIONED IN THE SECRET RECORDINGS OF THE PLOTTERS' MEETINGS, WHICH WERE BROADCAST TO THE CITIZENS AT THE TIME. THIS PROVED THE CLOSE CONTACTS BETWEEN AL-NAYIF AND THE PLOTTERS AND THE FOREIGN IMPERIALIST AND REACTIONARY CIRCLES WHICH STAND BEHIND THEM.

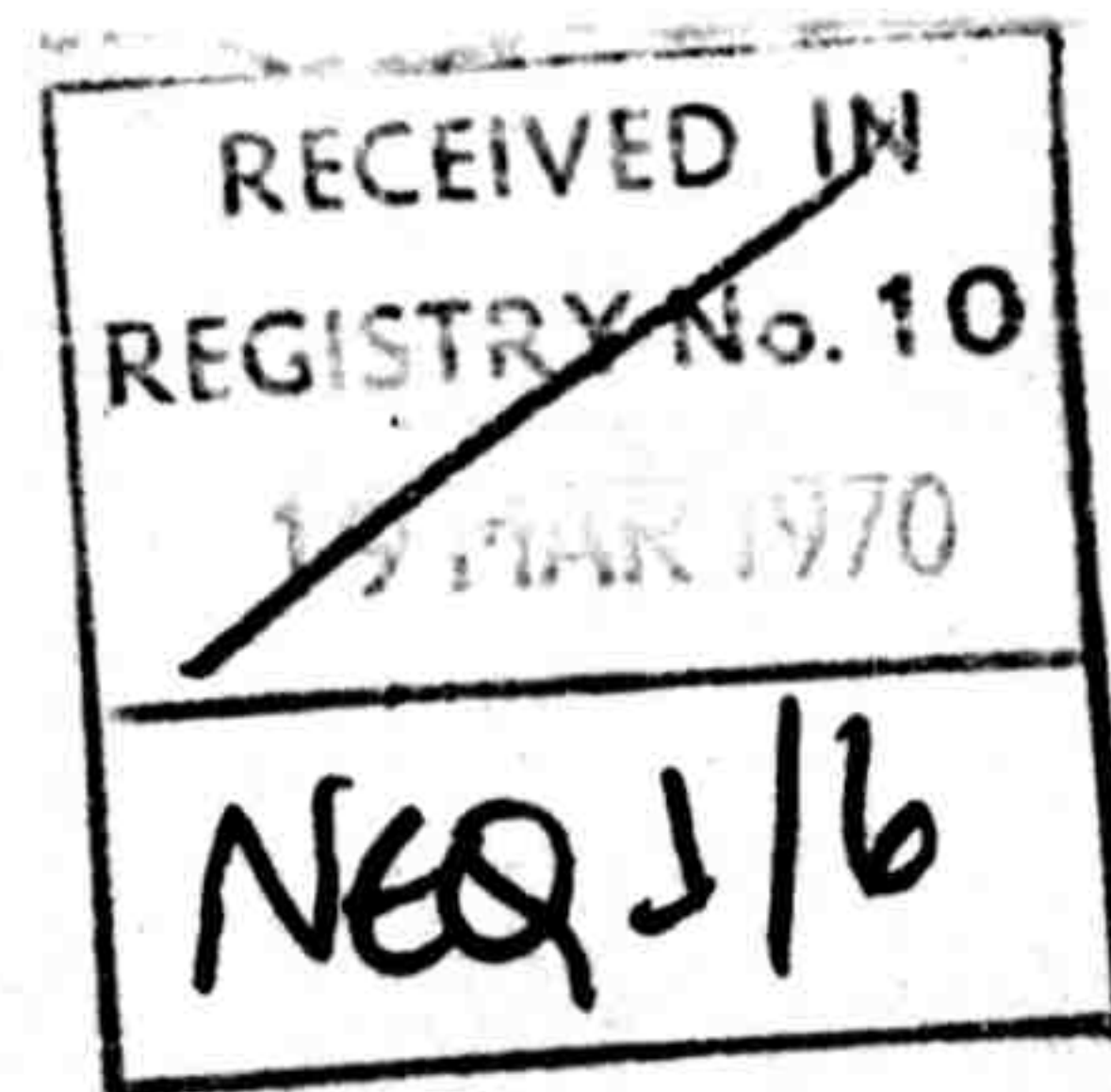
MF BBC MON 2/3 JL (TVN) 0809

B6 SENTENCES (FULL) 3:

THE SPECIAL COURT MET ON 28TH FEBRUARY 1970, UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF TAHA AL-JAZRAWI AND PASSED THE FOLLOWING SENTENCE:

C/
1--RETIRED STAFF COL ABD. AL-RAZZAQ SAID AL-RAWI AND LT. TAHA JABIR ARE SENTENCED IN ABSENTIA TO DEATH BY FIRING SQUAD IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLES 159, 190, AND 160 OF THE PENAL CODE.

MF BBC MON 2/3 JL (TVN)



(3)

B50 IRAQ: NO MORE CASES BEFORE SPECIAL COURT

(IRAQI NEWS AGENCY) BAGHDAD: THERE ARE NO MORE CASES TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE IRAQI SPECIAL COURT, THE COURT'S PRESIDENT, SD. TAHA JAZRAWI, SAID TODAY IN A PRESS INTERVIEW. THE COURT HAD ENDED ALL TRIALS OF PLOTTERS WHO WERE CONVICTED OF TAKING PART IN THE ABORTIVE PLOT OF 22ND JANUARY.

END BBC MON 18/3 1930 CDF (UPI)

Reg. clu

ABORTIVE

COUP

File

Run

Details Of Failed Coup On 20th January 1970 Including List Of Executed Suspects; Plea For Accused Female Conspirator; British Media Coverage Criticised. Attempted Coup D'état In Iraq On 20 January. 4 Feb. 1971. MS Middle East Online: Iraq, 1914-1974: Selected files from series AIR, CAB, CO, FCO, FO, PREM, T, WO, The National Archives, Kew, UK FCO 17/1240. Newspaper Cutting. The National Archives (Kew, United Kingdom). Archives Unbound, link. [gale.com/apps/doc/SC5107475361/GDSC?u=webdemo&sid=bookmark-GDSC&xid=356b3d0f&pg=1](https://www.gale.com/apps/doc/SC5107475361/GDSC?u=webdemo&sid=bookmark-GDSC&xid=356b3d0f&pg=1). Accessed 11 Apr. 2022.